

Department of Planning and Budget 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2348S1

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☒ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Webert

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Animal testing facilities; noncompliance with federal laws and regulations; civil penalty.

5. Summary: Requires animal testing facilities, as defined in the bill, to submit an annual report to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services detailing the total number and species of animals used for research, education, testing, or experimental, scientific, or biomedical purposes.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that this bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS). VDACS anticipates increased administrative costs associated with the design and review of the required annual report and an anticipated increase in the number of Freedom of Information Act requests related to the reports. The number of testing facilities in the Commonwealth covered by this bill is unknown, but VDACS estimates a range of 25 to 100.

Additionally, this bill places additional reporting requirements on any public institution of higher education that operates an animal testing facility. The University of Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Virginia Commonwealth University anticipate additional reporting requirements that can be absorbed with current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Commonwealth University, University of Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None