

Department of Planning and Budget

2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB53

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Campbell, R.R.

3. Committee: Committee Referral Pending

4. Title: Animal care; zoos and petting zoos; seizure of animals.

5. Summary: Raises from reasonable cause to probable cause the standard for a belief that animal cruelty laws are being violated for purposes of an application for a search warrant. The bill adds animals located at a zoo or petting zoo, defined in the bill, to agricultural animals as exceptions to the standards for seizure or impoundment of companion animals. The bill also requires that before a seizure can take place at a zoo or petting zoo, a direct and immediate threat to an animal must exist that cannot be corrected in a reasonable time or that the owner is unable or unwilling to correct. The bill requires humane investigators to be residents of the Commonwealth. The bill contains technical amendments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services anticipates a small increase to the State Veterinarian's workload, which can be absorbed within existing resources. The Department of Wildlife Resources and court system anticipate no impact.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Wildlife Resources, court system.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.