

Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB673

House of Origin X Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Alexander

3. Committee: Agriculture, Cheseapeake, and Natural Resources

4. Title: **Animal welfare standards**

5. Summary: The bill clarifies several standards of animal welfare. The amount of time an animal must be deserted to be considered abandoned is shortened from five consecutive days to 24 consecutive hours. Adequate shelter for tethered animals will require an enclosure large enough to provide separate eating and sleeping areas, both of which shall be at least 10 feet from a toilet area. Adequate space for tether animals will require that the tether is no more than 1/8th the weight of the animal and at least 20 times the length of the animal. Adequate water will require refreshment at least once every 12 hours and a container that cannot be overturned. The definition of adoption is broadened to include transfers of ownership from dealers.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: The bill does not have a fiscal impact.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

8. Fiscal Implications: None.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/16/2008 dpbkbs

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cc: Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry