

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2017 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB2381

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

**2. Patron:** Fariss

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Dangerous dogs.

**5. Summary:** This bill removes the requirement that a law-enforcement officer or animal control officer apply for a summons requiring a dog owner to appear before a general district court when the officer has reason to believe that the dog is dangerous. In the case of a dog that has bitten a cat or dog, the bill requires investigation by an officer for certain exemptions from the definition of "dangerous dog" to apply and removes an exemption for good cause as determined by a court. In the case of a dog that has bitten a person, the bill creates an exemption when an investigating officer finds that the injury is minor and allows a court to use good cause as a reason to determine that a dog is not dangerous. The engrossed bill specifies that no dog shall be found to be a dangerous dog if the court determines, based on the totality of evidence or other good cause, that the dog is not dangerous. The bill also reduces from 45 days to 30 days the period within which (i) an owner of a dog found to be dangerous is required to obtain a dangerous dog registration certificate and (ii) a convicted owner of a dangerous dog is required to comply with certain provisions. The bill contains technical amendments.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that this bill will not result in a fiscal impact to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; localities; courts.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.