

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB286

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

2. Patron: Bell, John J.

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Agriculture; food and drink sanitary requirements; exception for companion animals in wineries.

5. Summary: The bill provides for companion animals, as defined in § 3.2-6500, Code of Virginia, to be allowed on the premises of or inside a licensed winery or farm winery, provided that the presence of the companion animals in such areas is unlikely to result in contamination of food, food contact surfaces, or food packaging materials. Current law prohibits the presence of animals in any area used for the manufacture or storage of food products, except for guard or guide animals under certain circumstances.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The fiscal impact of this bill on the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) is indeterminate at this time. VDACS will expend resources providing interpretations of the provisions of this bill for stakeholders, investigating complaints, and handling any potential foodborne illnesses that may occur.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.