Department of Planning and Budget
2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1552

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

2. **Patron:** Levine

3. **Committee:** Committee referral pending

4. **Title:** Tethering animals; adequate shelter and space.

5. **Summary:** Provides that outdoor tethering of an animal does not meet the requirement that an animal be given adequate shelter if it occurs (i) between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., except when the animal is engaged in conduct related to an agricultural activity; (ii) when no owner is on the property; (iii) when the temperature is 32 degrees Fahrenheit or lower, or 85 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; (iv) during a heat advisory; or (v) during a severe weather warning. The bill increases certain minimum tether length requirements to meet the requirement that an animal be given adequate space by requiring that a tether be at least 15 feet in length or four times the length of the animal, whichever is greater. Current law requires the tether to be at least 10 feet in length or three times the length of the animal, whichever is greater. The bill also authorizes the governing body of any locality to adopt, and make more stringent, ordinances that parallel certain state provisions related to care of companion animals.

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, as local animal control officers will be responsible for enforcing the provisions.

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

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

11. **Other Comments:** SB272, as introduced, is the companion to this bill.