

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB272

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

2. Patron: Bell

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

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

5. Summary: Provides that the outdoor tethering of an animal shall not constitute the provision of adequate shelter (a) unless the animal is safe from predators and well suited and well equipped to tolerate its environment or (b) during a heat advisory issued by a local or state authority or during the effective period for a severe weather warning issued for the area by the National Weather Service, including a hurricane warning, tropical storm warning, or tornado warning. 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: None.