

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1527

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Convirs-Fowler

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources

4. Title: Cats; trap, neuter, and return programs, civil penalty.

5. Summary: Authorizes any public or private animal shelter, releasing agency, or hospital or clinic that is operated under the immediate supervision of a duly licensed veterinarian to operate a trap, neuter, and return program (TNR program), as defined in the bill. The bill exempts volunteers of such program from provisions relating to abandonment and licensing of animals and exempts the operator of such a program from general requirements of shelters related to holding periods, release of animals, and recordkeeping. A person who violates certain required provisions for such a program is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$150 brought by any animal control officer, humane investigator, releasing agency, or the State Veterinarian or State Veterinarian's representative.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any fiscal impact this bill will have on the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services can be absorbed within existing resources.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None