

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB1354

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

**2. Patron:** Martinez

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

**4. Title:** Declawing cats; prohibition; civil penalty.

**5. Summary:** Makes unlawful the practice of declawing cats except as necessary for a therapeutic purpose, as defined in the bill, and creates a civil penalty of \$500 for the first violation, \$1,000 for the second violation, and \$2,500 for the third or any subsequent violation. The bill also entitles any animal control officer, humane investigator, or state or local law-enforcement officer to bring a civil action for a violation of this section.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services does not anticipate any fiscal impact from the passage of this legislation. First, second, and third or any subsequent violations are subject to \$500, \$1,000, and \$2,500 penalties, respectively, which will be paid into the treasury of the locality in which civil actions are brought for the purpose of defraying local animal control costs.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None