

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2318 - HB 2503

March 2, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Limits disposal of Class I wildlife in the state to releasing into the animal's natural habitat, returning the animal to the seller, or donating the animal to a zoo.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 70-4-403 sets forth five classes of wildlife in Tennessee. Class I wildlife are animal species that are inherently dangerous to humans—e.g., bears, lions, crocodiles, and chimpanzees.
- After June 25, 1991, only facilities permitted by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) under Tenn. Code Ann. § 70-4-404 may possess Class I wildlife.
- The TWRA regulates possession and transfers of Class I wildlife in Tennessee.
- The proposed legislation provides three methods for disposing of Class I wildlife:
 - Return the animal to its natural habitat;
 - Return the animal to the seller if the seller has a permit to possess Class I wildlife; and
 - Donate the animal to a zoo if the zoo has a permit to possess Class I wildlife.
- The proposed legislation will not significantly impact the policies or operations of the TWRA.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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