

Department of Planning and Budget 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1382

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Gooditis

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Cats; prohibition on declawing, 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: It is anticipated that any state fiscal impact that may result from this bill can be absorbed within existing resources. This bill allows any animal control officer, humane investigator, or state or local law-enforcement officer to bring a civil action. Revenue generated by the civil penalties established in this bill would be paid into the treasury of the locality where the civil action is brought and used to defray the locality's animal control costs.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, state and local law enforcement agencies, courts, localities

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.