

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1985

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Kory

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Pet shops; sale of dogs or cats.

5. Summary: Codifies regulations proposed by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services governing the keeping of dogs and cats by pet shops, defined in the bill. The bill requires such pet shops to register and pay a \$250 annual registration fee to the Department. The bill requires pet shops in existence on July 1, 2023, to register with the Department by January 1, 2024. The bill prohibits pet shops from offering dogs or cats for sale to research facilities and establishes certain standards of care for the keeping of dogs or cats. The bill directs the State Animal Welfare Inspector to conduct at least one unannounced, annual inspection of each pet shop and provides certain standards for the Inspector and pet shop owner in order to address any violations.

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 incurring a fiscal impact as a result of this bill, as the Department currently collects a \$250 fee annual registration fee from pet shop owners under § 3.2-6501.1, Code of Virginia. State Animal Welfare Inspectors are currently preparing to annually inspect the estimated 20 pet shops located in the Commonwealth.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None