



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 165

PRINTERS NO. 3560

PRIME SPONSOR: J. Evans

FUND: General

COST / (SAVINGS)

FY 2011/12	FY 2012/13
\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

House Bill 165 amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) regarding cruelty to animals.

ANALYSIS:

This legislation would make it a third degree misdemeanor to own a dog who kills, maims, or disfigures a service dog. The owner would also have to have known beforehand that his or her dog had a propensity to attack human beings or other animals without provocation, and knowingly or recklessly failed to restrain the dog or keep the dog in a contained, secure manner. The punishment established is a fine of not more than \$5,000 and a requirement the owner make reparations for veterinary costs in treating the service dog, and, if necessary, pay the costs to replace the service dog.

The bill also establishes civil penalties and restitution for these situations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds. The punishment established does not involve any prison time at either the county or state level.

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 4, 2012

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.