



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1917

PRINTERS NO. 2815

PRIME SPONSOR: Ryan

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: House Bill 1917, Printer's Number 2815, amends Title 22 to provide for changes related to the appointment, training and registration of humane society police officers.

ANALYSIS: This bill amends Title 22 (Detectives and Private Police) to provide for additional qualifications for the appointment, training, oversight and continuing education for humane society police officers (HSPOs). Initial training shall include a minimum of 80 hours and current HSPOs are exempt from the initial training, as long as they have successful completion of the new continuing education requirements. The minimum number of hours of criminal law enforcement instruction will change from 36 to 40 and the minimum number of hours of care and treatment of agricultural animals will change from 24 to 40. New elements related to farm biosecurity, general farm orientation, safety and security practices are added to the agricultural education portion of training. The minimum number of hours of continuing education is increased from 10 to 16, and remains a requirement every two years.

House Bill 1917 requires the Clerk of Courts of the county to notify the Department of Agriculture of humane society police officers (HSPO) appointments, which will then be included in the registry of HSPOs maintained by the department. All HSPOs are to register with the department and provide qualifying documentation every two years.

It also enhances the operation of the current Humane Society Police Officer Advisory Board by requiring it to meet at least once a year or as often as necessary to advise the secretary. The board will also review and recommend training programs as required by the act.

This legislation would take effect one year after enactment.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this bill will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. Costs related to the increased and enhanced training requirements will be borne by the individual humane society police officers or related organizations performing these duties.

PREPARED BY: Jeffrey Clukey
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: January 23, 2018

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