

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 907

PRINTER NO. 1550

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

October 18, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Yaw

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 907 establishes the Animal Welfare Board (board) to review existing laws and regulations related to the keeping and handling of animals and to make recommendations for legislative and regulatory changes.

The legislation provides for the board’s membership to include:

- The Secretary of Agriculture or a designee;
- One member appointed by each of the following organizations:
 - The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine;
 - The College of Agricultural Sciences of The Pennsylvania State University;
 - The American Kennel Club;
 - The Northeast Beagle Gundog Federation;
 - The Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania;
 - The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals;
 - The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau;
 - The PennAg Industries Association;
 - The Pennsylvania State Grange;
 - The Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania;
 - The Office of the Attorney General; and
 - The Pennsylvania State Police.
- Two members appointed by each of the following organizations:
 - The Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, at least one of whom represents a licensed kennel; and
 - The Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association.

The legislation requires the board to issue at least one biannual report and make its initial report within one year of the board’s inception. It also requires the board to meet at least one time every legislative session or at intervals necessary to fulfill its duties.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect in 120 days.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of Senate Bill 907 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The cost to the Department of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania State Police and the Office of Attorney General should be minimal and can be accomplished with existing policy and legal staff within each of the agencies' existing operating budgets.