149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 216**
AS AMENDED BY:	**SA 1**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Hansen**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 AND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CRUELTY TO DOGS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE HUMANE HANDLING, CARE, AND TREATMENT OF DOGS.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act shall take effect upon signature of the Governor.

2. This Act seeks to amend Title 11 and Title 16 of the Delaware Code related to cruelty to dogs and defines the specifications for the humane handling, care and treatment of dogs.

3. This Act strengthens the shelter requirements for dogs kept outside by requiring enhanced shelter and naming specifications required to enhance such shelters. Failure to provide enhanced shelters and/or a third or subsequent violation of shelter requirements will result in a crime of cruelty to animals.

4. After reviewing historical data related to average temperatures, the Department reports the provisions of this Act would be impacted 125 days out of year as the Act defines temperature requirements for outdoor exposure. Considering the harsh weather last year generated an additional call volume of 40 additional complaints per day, the Department assumes that even at half of these calls, an additional 2,500 complaints may be generated from this Act. Each officer handles approximately 800 complaints per year. With the removal of the requirement of nighttime provisions, the Office of Animal Welfare anticipates the need for a 1.0 FTE Investigator I position to monitor compliance with regulations and the issuance of citations as appropriate.

5. The estimated State agency cost for the 1.0 FTE staff is $56,446 (estimate includes salary, other employment costs (OEC's), and Health Insurance).

    a. 10 month Salaries, OEC's and Health Insurance: $47,038
    b. Annualization Amount of position: $9,408
    c. 10 Month Contractual Services and Supplies assessment: $10,588
    d. Annualization Amount of Contractual Services and Supplies assessment: $2,118
    e. One-time costs for Supplies and Capital: $1,638 and $5,780

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2019:	$65,044
Fiscal Year 2020:	$69,151
Fiscal Year 2021:	$69,151

Prepared by Victoria Brennan
Office of the Controller General