



153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FEE IMPACT

BILL: SENATE BILL NO. 257
SPONSOR: Senator Poore
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ANIMAL SHELTER OPERATION.

In accordance with 29 Del. C. § 913, the following information is provided relating to licenses and fees.

Description of the Legislation:

This Act requires animal shelters operating in Delaware to obtain and annually renew a license issued by the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS or the Department). The Act authorizes DHSS to charge reasonable license and license renewal fees, provided such fees do not exceed the Department's costs associated with administering the animal shelter licensure program.

Affected Entities:

Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, State Office of Animal Welfare

Fiscal Impact:

A review of Animal Shelter Inspection Reports publicly posted on the Office of Animal Welfare's website indicates that at least 12 organizations are likely to be impacted as a result of this Act.

This Act provides that the Department may charge an animal shelter a reasonable license fee and license renewal fee that may not exceed the costs to the Department of administering Subchapter I, Chapter 30F, Title 16 of the Delaware Code.

For purposes of this fee impact statement, it is assumed that the DHSS will promulgate regulations to determine or establish a schedule of fees. The schedule of fees once the final regulations are issued is unknown; therefore, the additional revenue is indeterminable.

Fiscal Year 2027: Indeterminable

Fiscal Year 2028: Indeterminable

Fiscal Year 2029: Indeterminable

Intended Use of Revenue:

As this Act provides that the establishment of a license fee and license renewal fee may not exceed the costs to the Department of administering Subchapter I, Chapter 30F, Title 16 of the Delaware Code, it is presumed that the Department will retain the revenue generated by these fees and use the revenue to offset costs for the operation of the licensing and inspection components related to this Act within the State Office of Animal Welfare.

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Office of the Controller General