

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 922 (Delegate Kach)
Environmental Matters

Public Health - Feral Cats - Rabies Vaccinations

This bill requires a feral cat caregiver who provides care to (or has temporary custody of) a feral cat to make every reasonable effort to ensure that (1) the feral cat is vaccinated for rabies and subsequently ear-tipped and (2) there is a written record of the feral cat's vaccination.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene can use existing resources to assist local health departments with enforcement, to the extent necessary.

Local Effect: Enforcement can likely be handled with existing resources, assuming enforcement is complaint-based.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A person who owns or keeps a cat that is age four months or older must have the cat vaccinated adequately against rabies.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Harford, Montgomery, and Queen Anne's counties; Maryland Department of Agriculture; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 4, 2013
mlm/ljm

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