

25103930D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1591

Offered January 13, 2025

Prefiled January 2, 2025

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-339.15, relating to tax credit; veterinary care for retired police canines.

Patron—Kent

Referred to Committee on Finance

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-339.15 as follows:

§ 58.1-339.15. Veterinary care for retired police canines tax credit.

A. For purposes of this section:

"Retired police canine" means a canine that has retired from service with one or more law-enforcement agencies or correctional facilities after having served at least five years or at least three years if such retirement was due to an injury sustained while the canine was engaged in the performance of his duties.

"Veterinary care" means the treatment provided in the course of the practice of veterinary medicine pursuant to Chapter 38 (§ 54.1-3800) of Title 54.1.

B. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2025, but before January 1, 2030, an individual or married individuals filing jointly shall be allowed a nonrefundable credit against the tax levied pursuant to § 58.1-320 for costs directly incurred for the veterinary care of a retired police canine. The credit shall equal the lesser of the costs incurred for such care or \$1,500. Only one credit may be claimed for each retired police canine. If married individuals file separately, only one individual may claim the credit pursuant to this section for each retired police canine.

C. The amount of the credit that may be claimed in any single taxable year shall not exceed the taxpayer's liability for taxes imposed by this chapter for that taxable year. If the amount of the credit allowed under this section exceeds the taxpayer's tax liability for the taxable year in which the costs directly incurred for the veterinary care occurred, the amount that exceeds the tax liability may be carried over for credit against the income taxes of the taxpayer in the next five taxable years or until the total amount of the tax credit has been taken, whichever is sooner.

D. The Tax Commissioner shall develop guidelines for claiming the credit provided by this section. Such guidelines shall be exempt from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.).