Department of Planning and Budget
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 2/20/2025 12:23 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB1051ER **Patron:** Ebbin
Bill Title: Grooming and boarding establishments; inspections by animal control officers.

Bill Summary: Allows an animal control officer to inspect a grooming or boarding establishment upon receipt of a complaint or by animal control's own motion to ensure compliance with state animal care laws and regulations or a business premises with the consent of the owner or person in charge. The bill also directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a work group to consider whether to propose a state license and other regulatory requirements for animal boarding establishments similar to the current licensing requirements for animal shelters and report its findings to the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.

Explanation: This bill involves the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS); however, no budget action is required. See Fiscal Analysis section below.

Fiscal Summary: It is anticipated that any fiscal impact this bill may have on VDACS can be absorbed within existing resources.

Fiscal Analysis: This impact statement is final. It is anticipated that any fiscal impact this bill may have on VDACS can be absorbed within existing resources.

This bill requires VDACS to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to consider and report findings on licensing and regulatory requirements for animal boarding establishments. VDACS anticipates hiring an external expert to facilitate the group's activities. A similar work group led by VDACS in 2024 conducted three meetings between April and November to produce a report. The cost for hiring the expert and producing the report is estimated at $25,000, which VDACS can absorb.

The bill may impact localities, but that impact is indeterminate.

Other: None.