



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL ANALYSIS



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Senate Bill 339 (Substitute S-2 as reported)
Sponsor: Senator Steven Bieda
Committee: Agriculture

CONTENT

The bill would amend Public Act 287 of 1969, which regulates pet shops and animal shelters, to do the following:

- Allow, rather than require, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development promulgate rules to accomplish the Act's purposes and to establish minimum standards for the housing, care, and handling of animals.
- Require the Department, within 18 months after the bill's effective date, to promulgate rules to establish minimum standards for dog breeding operations that were consistent with accepted animal welfare standards.
- Specify that if licensing were required, the rules could provide for licensing fees that did not exceed the reasonable costs of administering the Department's dog breeding operation program.
- Create the Animal Welfare Commission and specify its membership.
- Require the Commission to submit to the Department recommendations for rules defining and regulating dog breeders, within nine months after the bill's effective date.
- Dissolve the Commission 30 days after the effective date of the rules promulgated to establish standards for dog breeding operations, and repeal the section creating the Commission two years after the bill's effective date.

The bill is tie-barred to House Bill 4898. (House Bill 4898 (S-2), which is tie-barred to Senate Bill 339, would amend Public Act 287 of 1969 to define "animal welfare" and commission".

MCL 287.332 & 287.339

Legislative Analyst: Jeff Mann

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have a minor fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development during the existence of the proposed Animal Welfare Commission, and beyond that, depending on the recommendations made by the Commission and adopted by the Department.

The bill would create the Animal Welfare Commission with the duty to recommend standards for dog breeding operations. The Department would be required to provide administrative support, including budgetary and per diem support for the Commission and promulgate rules for the regulation of dog breeding operation standards. The bill also specifies that if the rules promulgated under the bill required the establishment of a license structure and a license fee, those fees could not exceed the reasonable costs of administering the Department's dog breeding operation program.

Date Completed: 12-1-16

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