

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 7 - 1 - 2
Yeas: Garrett, Olson, Schaufler, Tomei, Wand, Barker, Krieger
Nays: Whisnant
Exc.: Hicks, Nolan
Prepared By: Aaron Knott, Counsel
Meeting Dates: 3/3, 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes the district attorney to seek forfeiture of animals alleged to have been abused in criminal cases. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Delay in successful forfeiture action
- Resource limitations facing county animal shelter facilities
- Additional burden imposed on county facilities in requiring them to become aware of an animal abuse action and how this burden might be ameliorated by district attorney involvement

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 167.347 allows for the impoundment of abused animals to a county animal shelter or other animal care agency pending the outcome of a criminal action charging various forms of animal abuse under ORS 167.315, 167.340, 167.355, 167.365 or 167.428. The county animal shelter or other facility may also file a petition under this section requesting that the court issue an order forfeiting the animal to the county or animal care agency prior to the final disposition of the criminal charge. House Bill 3041 would allow the district attorney to file this petition on behalf of the county animal shelter or other animal care agency.