

SB 268 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Action Date: 03/12/19

Action: Do pass and refer to Finance and Revenue by prior reference.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Bentz, Dembrow, Olsen, Prozanski, Roblan

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

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Meeting Dates: 2/26, 3/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates a personal income tax subtraction for adopting dogs and cats from an animal rescue entity. Applies to tax years on or after January 1, 2019 and before January 1, 2025. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cost of pet adoption
- Number of pet adoptions
- 2017 tax credit proposal

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, the total number of companion dogs and cats in U.S. households numbered more than 143 million in 2012 with more than 36 percent of households owning dogs and more than 30 percent owning cats. Oregon ranked fourth in the top 10 pet-owning states with 64 percent of households owning a pet. As of 2014, approximately 3.2 million dogs and cats were adopted each year in the U.S. from animal shelters (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals).

ORS 609.415 defines animal rescue entity as "an individual or organization, including but not limited to an animal control agency, humane society, animal shelter, animal sanctuary or boarding kennel not subject to ORS 167.374, but excluding a veterinary facility, that keeps, houses and maintains in its legal custody 10 or more animals, whether physically located at a facility operated by the entity or kept, housed or maintained elsewhere, and that solicits or accepts donations in any form."

Senate Bill 268 would create a personal income tax subtraction for the adoption of a dog or cat from an animal rescue entity.