

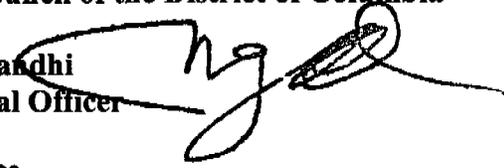
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Linda W. Cropp
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: SEP -6 2006

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Omnibus Animal Control Amendment Act of 2006"

REFERENCE: Draft Legislation – Bill Number Not Available

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2007 through FY 2010 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation would provide the District Department of Health with additional animal control enforcement responsibilities but would also provide for the imposition of new and increased fees.

Background

The proposed legislation would amend the Animal Control Act of 1979 (D.C. Official Code § 8-1801 *et seq.*) to increase animal control and provide for additional licensing requirements and fees. Specifically, the proposed legislation would:

1. Require the District to provide a free anti-rabies vaccination clinic at least annually,
2. Increase annual license fees for dogs and cats,
3. Require the District to impound any dogs, cats, rabbits, or ferrets, the combination of which exceeds 4 animals, or any beyond the number authorized in an animal hobby permit,
4. Require the District to inspect the premises proposed to be used for keeping animals pursuant to an animal hobby permit,
5. Require persons intending to own dogs and cats capable of breeding to obtain a breeding permit, and
6. Require operators of a commercial pet care facility to obtain a business license and increase the fine for violation of this section to a maximum of \$1,000 for each violation.

The proposed legislation also grants greater authority to the District to monitor and deal with dangerous and potentially dangerous dogs in the District.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2007 through FY 2010 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The District's local Budget and Financial Plan would be required to absorb any additional and unforeseen costs that may be incurred as a result of this legislation.

The proposed legislation would provide the District Department of Health with additional animal control enforcement responsibilities but would also provide for the imposition of new and increased fees. Depending upon program activity both costs and revenues may increase, but revenues are expected in part to offset costs.