



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 137

January Session, 2011

House Bill No. 5011

House of Representatives, March 22, 2011

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. ROY of the 119th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING OWNERS OF DOGS THAT HAVE VICIOUS DISPOSITIONS OR THAT BARK EXCESSIVELY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22-363 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 No person shall own or harbor a dog or dogs which is or are a
4 nuisance by reason of vicious disposition or excessive barking or other
5 disturbance, or, by such barking or other disturbance, is or are a source
6 of annoyance to any sick person residing in the immediate vicinity.
7 Violation of any provision of this section shall be an infraction for the
8 first offense and such person shall be issued a summons and fined not
9 more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty
10 days or both for each subsequent offense and the court or judge may
11 make such order concerning the restraint or disposal of such dog or
12 dogs as may be deemed necessary.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	22-363

ENV *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 12 \$	FY 13 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	Less than 10,000	Less than 10,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill would require a repeat offender for harboring or owning a nuisance dog to be issued a summons requiring an appearance before the court. It is anticipated that the number of additional court hearings may result in a cost of less than \$10,000 per year to the Judicial Department.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of infractions.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5011*****AN ACT CONCERNING OWNERS OF DOGS THAT HAVE VICIOUS DISPOSITIONS OR THAT BARK EXCESSIVELY.*****SUMMARY:**

By law, it is illegal to harbor or own a nuisance dog (e.g., one that has a vicious disposition or barks excessively). A person who violates the law is guilty of an infraction for the first offense. For a subsequent offense, a person is subject to a fine of up to \$100, imprisonment up to 30 days, or both.

This bill specifies that upon a subsequent offense for owning or harboring a nuisance dog, the violator must be issued a summons. Thus, the violator must appear in court.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/09/2011)