

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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**Action:** Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Rescind Subsequent referral to Ways and Means  
**Vote:** 10 - 0 - 0  
**Yeas:** Barton, Cameron, Garrett, Krieger, Olson, Shields, Smith J., Stiegler, Whisnant, Barker  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** 0  
**Prepared By:** Shannon Sivell, Counsel  
**Meeting Dates:** 4/24, 4/28

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Increases fines for committing crimes of interfering with, or assaulting, a police animal.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Impact of police animals on crime
- Penalty for assaulting a police officer
- Fiscal impact

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:** HB 2629A increases the fines associated with a conviction for interfering with , or assaulting, a police animal. Interfering with a police animal is a Class A misdemeanor and assaulting a police animal is a Class C felony. In the event a defendant is convicted of either crime, this measure requires a judge to impose \$500 fine for a misdemeanor and a \$1,000 fine for a felony.