

licensure, certification, permitting, and registration, to establish fees required by Chapter 321, and to establish a code of conduct governing the practice of veterinary medicine. The board would have authority to issue notices of violation to any person for violation of Chapter 321. The board would maintain jurisdiction over persons, premises, and registered facilities relative to acts, omissions, complaints, grievances, and investigations occurring during their registration period regardless whether registration has expired.

Section 31 would amend KRS 321.990 to establish that a person who violates or aids in violation of Section 8, 12, 15, 17, 28 or 29 for performing services without a required credential would be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to incarceration for 10 to 90 days. Other subsections would impose sentences of incarceration from 10 to 90 days for additional identified misdemeanor violations of KRS Chapter 321.

The fiscal impact of HB 167 SCS 1 on local government animal shelters is indeterminable. The fiscal impact on local jails would be minimal.

It is unknown whether animal control agencies, typically owned and operated by a city or county, currently employ certified animal euthanasia specialists or, if they do, how much they pay them. If they don't currently employ such a specialist then salary and benefits for the specialist would likely be a significant expense for an animal shelter.

It also is not known how many people would violate the new provisions of KRS Chapter 321 nor how many of those violators would be charged, found guilty, and sentenced to a term of incarceration. However, each person incarcerated represents an additional expense to a local jail. Misdemeanants are housed in one of Kentucky's 74 full-service jails or three life safety jails. While the expense of housing inmates varies by jail, this estimated impact is based on an average cost to incarcerate of \$40.11 per day. While the majority of misdemeanor defendants are granted bail, those who do not will also cost local jails an average of \$40.11 per day.

Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

Part II above applies to HB 167 as amended by SCS 1. This substitute retained the original provisions, modified and added some definitions, and allows an animal owner, owner's employee, or owner's agent to euthanize livestock. These changes do not affect the findings of the original fiscal impact analysis.

The previous version of the bill, HB 167 HCS 1, retained the original provisions; included AAHP managers in various lists of veterinary professionals; excluded accredited zoos and aquariums from the definition of a veterinary facility; allowed for graduates of an approved foreign equivalency program to apply for veterinarian licensure; and made technical collection. None of the changes made in the HCS 1 affected the findings of the original analysis of the fiscal impact this legislation would have on local governments.

Data Source(s): Department of Corrections; LRC staff

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