

Economic Impact Statement

Office of Legislative Oversight

Bill 37-21

Animal Control – Animal Services Advisory Committee – Established

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates that enacting Bill 37-21 would have an insignificant impact on economic conditions in the County.

BACKGROUND

If enacted, Bill 37-21 would establish an Animal Services Advisory Committee, guidelines for the appointment of members by the Executive, and duties for the Committee. These duties would include advising the Executive and Council on animal care and welfare, animal rescue, animal fostering and adoption, zoonotic disease transmission, and other related issues.¹

INFORMATION SOURCES, METHODOLOGIES, and ASSUMPTIONS

The claims made in this analysis are based on the following assumption: While policies related to animal welfare may have economic impacts,² the Animal Services Advisory Committee's advisory role to the Executive and Council would have no evident impacts on private organizations based in the County or residents in terms of the Council's priority indicators.³

VARIABLES

Not applicable

¹ Montgomery County Council, [Bill 37-21, Animal Control – Animal Services Advisory Committee – Established](#), Introduced on October 19, 2021.

² See, for example, John McInerney, Animal Welfare, Economics and Policy, Report on a study undertaken for the Farm & Animal Health Economics Division of Defra, February 2004.

³ Montgomery County Code, [Sec. 2-81B, Economic Impact Statements](#).

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IMPACTS

WORKFORCE ▪ TAXATION POLICY ▪ PROPERTY VALUES ▪ INCOMES ▪ OPERATING COSTS ▪ PRIVATE SECTOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT ▪ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ▪ COMPETITIVENESS

Businesses, Non-Profits, Other Private Organizations

Not applicable

Residents

Not applicable

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Not applicable

WORKS CITED

Montgomery County Code. [Sec. 2-81B. Economic Impact Statements.](#)

Montgomery County Council. [Bill 37-21, Animal Control – Animal Services Advisory Committee – Established.](#) Introduced on October 19, 2021.

CAVEATS

Two caveats to the economic analysis performed here should be noted. First, predicting the economic impacts of legislation is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, the multitude of causes of economic outcomes, economic shocks, uncertainty, and other factors. Second, the analysis performed here is intended to *inform* the legislative process, not determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO's endorsement of, or objection to, the Bill under consideration

CONTRIBUTIONS

Stephen Roblin (OLO) prepared this report.