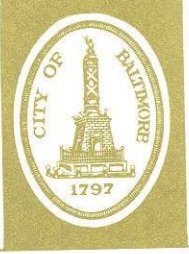


Andrew Klein

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Andrew W. Kleine, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 469, City Hall (396-4941)
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution # 12-0101

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO

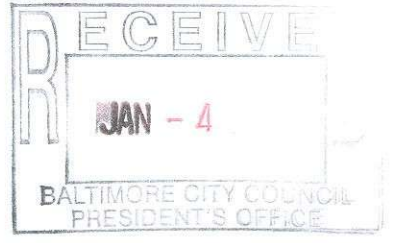


DATE: December 11, 2012

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
C/O Karen Randle
Room 409, City Hall

Attention: Karen Randle



Council Bill 12-0101 is for the purpose of requiring licenses for private kennels; establishing the procedures for issuing or revoking private kennel licenses; making the failure to obtain a private kennel license punishable by citation; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the licensing of private kennels.

Analysis

This bill creates a requirement for licensing of private kennels, procedures for administration of licenses, and allowing for citation of private kennels that do not properly procure licenses.

Licenses are a current requirement under the Baltimore City Health Code for any person operating an animal clinic, animal shelter, or commercial establishment. Additionally, licensing is also a requirement for all animal fancier facilities (an animal fancier is one who owns or keeps two or more animals for the non-commercial purposes of breeding, hunting, tracking, or exhibition).

This bill would restore a licensing provision that was removed due to enactment of Ordinance 11-57. Animal Control has indicated that private kennel permitting has not proven effective, as there is extremely limited ability to carry out enforcement of this type of law. As a result, only a small number of multi-pet kennel permits have been issued in the past. During Calendar Year 2011, the City issued only 228 residential multi-pet permits, generating a total of \$18,240 in revenue. Over the same time frame, BARCS sold approximately 7,035 pet licenses. Currently, animal enforcement personnel are primarily focused on response to emergency calls and citizen service requests, and cannot dedicate time to monitoring permitting without jeopardizing their ability to respond to these immediate issues. Finance would defer to the Health Department on the operational impacts of this requirement.

Fiscal Impact

Revenues from Dog Licenses and Kennel Permits totaled \$96,827 in Fiscal 2012. The Baltimore Animal Rescue & Care Shelter, Inc. (BARCS), the non-profit entity contracting as the City's animal shelter, currently receives all pet license revenues, but would not receive any revenue generated from private kennel permitting based on this bill.

unfair

The agency would likely issue a similar number of private kennel permits as it did in previous years. Permit administration and enforcement would require significant dedicated time from a City animal enforcement officer. Shifting an animal enforcement officer from his or her current duties could potentially increase response time for emergency situations and citizen service requests, shifting additional response and cost burdens to the Police Department.

Recommendation

For all of the reasons above, the Department of Finance respectfully opposes the passage of CCB 12-0101.

Cc: Harry Black
Angela Gibson

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