

HB 46 -- IMPOUNDMENT OF ANIMALS (Viebrock)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Conservation and Natural Resources

Currently, any neglected or abused animal may be impounded. This bill prohibits a farm animal weighing more than 50 pounds from being impounded until the district state veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture or his or her designee has examined the animal and determined the animal to be in imminent danger of loss of life or has determined that the condition or conditions deemed to be in violation cannot reasonably be rectified before the disposition hearing. If before the disposition hearing, reasonable attempts to correct the condition have not been made and approved by the veterinarian or his or her designee during a required follow-up visit, the animal may be impounded or destroyed.

If an abused or neglected farm animal in the possession of a caregiver is impounded, the authority having custody of the animal is required to make a diligent effort to notify the owner in writing that the animal has been impounded.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$87,022 in FY 2008, \$82,706 in FY 2009, and \$85,187 in FY 2010. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.