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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Dines ORIGINAL DATE HJM 6
LAST UPDATED _____

SHORT TITLE Animal Abuse and Family Violence Training SB _____

ANALYST Chilton

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY17	FY18	FY19	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Response Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Response Not Received From

Department of Public Safety (DPS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

House Joint Memorial 6 would request that CYFD and DPS consider training providers in both departments on the link between cruelty towards animals and intrafamilial violence, noting the common co-occurrence of these conditions.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Animal Legal Defense Fund indicates, as do the preambles to this memorial, that abusers of animals are five times more likely to harm other humans as those who do not abuse animals. (aldf.org) The correlation applies to both adults and children in families where animal abuse occurs – both the adults and the children may be either the abusers or the abused or both.

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CYFD states that 65 percent of abused adult family members are unable to leave their abuser because they are afraid a pet may be abused. Further, CYFD states that “In a review of the literature, the American Humane Association reports that 68% of battered women reported violence occurred toward their animals and 87% of these incidents occurred in the presence of the women to psychologically control and coerce them. Pets may suffer unexplained injuries, health problems, permanent disabilities at the hands of abusers, or disappear from home.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The relationship between animal abuse and family violence would not be the subject of training for DPS and CYFD personnel.

LAC/jle