

## FISCAL NOTE

### HB 2953 - SB 3054

March 5, 2000

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates the offense of animal torture to include any violent or other intentional act or knowing omission whereby severe and extreme physical pain, suffering, or death is caused or permitted, for which there exists no lawful or legitimate purpose or justification. This offense would be punished as a Class E felony. The bill also allows the court to order the defendant to undergo psychological testing and evaluation. If a defendant convicted of animal torture resides in a household with minor children or elderly individuals, the court shall notify the appropriate protective agencies.

#### ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

##### **Increase State Expenditures - \$9,000 / Incarceration\***

Assumes two Class E felony convictions each year. Also assumes additional state expenditures for court-ordered psychological examinations and child and elderly protective services investigations; however, such increase in expenditures is not estimated to be significant.

\*Section 9-6-119, TCA, requires that: *For any law enacted after July 1, 1986, which results in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state facilities, there shall be appropriated from recurring revenues the estimated operating cost of such law.*

#### CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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