

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1154 - HB 912

March 10, 2013

SUMMARY OF BILL: Redefines “aggravated cruelty” to animals to include conduct that is accomplished in a depraved or sadistic manner; rather than is done or carried out in a depraved and sadistic manner.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Under current law, aggravated animal cruelty requires conduct that is performed in a depraved and sadistic manner. The bill would require depraved conduct or sadistic conduct.
- Merriam-Webster’s Online Dictionary defines “depraved” as “marked by corruption or evil” or “perverted.” Merriam-Webster’s Online Dictionary defines “sadistic” as “delight in cruelty” or “excessive cruelty.” It is assumed that most conduct that is depraved is also sadistic.
- Any increase in convictions as a result of the proposed legislation is estimated to be minimal and will not significantly impact the workloads of the courts, public defenders, or district attorneys, resulting in no significant fiscal impact.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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