

**LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 13-0799	Date: April 2, 2013
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Balmer; Guzman Rep. Court; Coram	Bill Status: Senate Judiciary
	Fiscal Analyst: Jonathan Senft (303-866-3523)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE CREATION OF THE "DOG PROTECTION ACT".

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: None required.		
Local Government Impact: See Local Government Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires that local law enforcement agencies provide training to officers for dog encounters. Procedures and a training video will be developed by a 23-member volunteer task force created by this bill, and will be posted online. Local agencies must create a three-hour training curriculum based off the task force material by September 1, 2014. Local law enforcement officers must complete this training by January 1, 2015. Officers hired after January 1, 2015 must complete the training within their first year of employment.

The task force must hold its first meeting no later than September 1, 2013, and complete the training curriculum by July 1, 2014. The task force is dissolved January 31, 2015. Members will be considered immune from civil actions and liabilities by the Volunteer Service Act. The task force does not involve state agencies.

In addition to the training material supplied by the task force, local law enforcement agencies must create and adopt written policies on canine behaviors, alternatives to lethal use of force against dogs, and opportunities for owners to remove a dog from the immediate area of law enforcement when appropriate.

This bill does not apply to state law enforcement.

Assessment

This bill is not expected to alter state revenue or expenditures. Staff time from various non-state entities is required to assemble and administer the 23-member volunteer task force, although these costs are expected to be minimal. The video produced by the task force is expected to be posted on the web site of a non-profit organization designated by the task force.

Local Government Impact

This bill requires local law enforcement officers to attend one three-hour training session. It also requires the adoption of policies outlined in the training video related to handling dogs in law enforcement situations. Training requires officer and support staff time, which may increase costs related to overtime hours paid. These costs, however, are expected to be minimal.

Departments Contacted

Counties
Law
Sheriffs

Municipalities
Local Affairs

Judicial
Public Safety