

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 561 (Delegate Montague. *et al.*)

Judiciary

Damages for Injury to or Death of Pet Animal

This bill provides that the measure of damages for tortious injuries to or death of a pet is the greater of the market value of the pet before the injury or death or the actual cost of veterinary care.

Current law provides that the measure of damages for tortious injuries to a pet is the market value of the pet before the injury or the reasonable cost of veterinary care, but not more than \$2,500 if such charge is greater.

The bill applies prospectively only.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 1999
ncs/jr

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