



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 59

February Session, 2026

House Bill No. 5283

House of Representatives, March 18, 2026

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. KAVROS DEGRAW of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IN PET SHOPS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subparagraph (D) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of
2 section 7-148 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4 (D) (i) Regulate and prohibit the going at large of dogs and other
5 animals in the streets and public places of the municipality and prevent
6 cruelty to animals and all inhuman sports, except that no municipality
7 shall adopt breed-specific dog ordinances;

8 (ii) Regulate and prohibit the keeping of wild or domestic animals,
9 including reptiles, within the municipal limits or portions thereof;

10 (iii) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 435, prohibit the sale
11 of dogs, cats and rabbits in pet shops, as defined in section 22-327;

| | | |
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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
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|-----------|------------------------|----------------|
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 7-148(c)(7)(D) |
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PD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact:

| Municipalities | Effect | FY 27 \$ | FY 28 \$ |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| All Municipalities | Potential Cost | See Below | See Below |

Explanation

The bill authorizes municipalities to prohibit the sale of certain animals in pet shops within their jurisdiction. This may result in a potential cost to municipalities beginning in FY 27 to the extent they require additional resources to enforce this provision.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5283*****AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IN PET SHOPS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes municipalities to prohibit the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in pet shops in their jurisdiction. It does so by amending the general municipal powers statute to explicitly grant this authority, regardless of existing state laws on pet shop licensing.

Under existing law and the bill, a “pet shop” is a place where animals not born and raised on the premises are kept to be sold to the public (CGS § 22-327(9)). The law prohibits anyone from operating a pet shop without a license from the state Department of Agriculture (CGS § 22-344(b)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 8 (03/06/2026)