

Department of Planning and Budget 2001 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number** HB2417

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☒ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. **Patron** Morgan

3. **Committee** Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. **Title** Hydraulic dredges

5. **Summary/Purpose:** The bill prohibits a person from taking or catching clams through the use of a hydraulic escalator dredge or having a hydraulic dredge designed for harvesting seafood on board a boat without a permit issued by the Marine Resources Commission. The penalty for violation is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

6. **Fiscal impact estimates are:** See Item 8

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** No

8. **Fiscal implications:** Sentencing for a Class 1 misdemeanor could include jail time. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many convictions and prisoners in jail could result from the bill. Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth pays the localities \$8 a day for each misdemeanant held in a jail, and the state also provides support for local jail operations. This support averaged \$30.54 per inmate each day in FY 1999.

9. **Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Marine Resources Commission, localities

10. **Technical amendment necessary:** No

11. **Other comments:** None

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cc: Secretary of Natural Resources

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