

Department of Planning and Budget

2002 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB460

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

2. Patron: Hawkins

3. Committee: Rules

4. Title: Establish the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission

5. Summary/Purpose: This bill would establish the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission. The Commission is a bi-state advisory body composed of 18 citizen members, with nine members representing Virginia and nine members representing North Carolina. Those appointed to serve as members of the Commission are to represent a variety of interest groups, including permit holders, forestry and agricultural organizations, local government officials, and soil and water conservation districts. State legislators from both states may be nonvoting ex-officio members of the Commission. The Commission has no regulatory authority. Its purposes include: (i) providing guidance and making recommendations to local, state and federal legislative and administrative bodies on the use, stewardship, and enhancement of the water and other natural resources within the Basin; (ii) providing a forum for discussion of issues affecting the Basin's water quality, water quantity, and natural resources; (iii) promoting communication, coordination, and education among stakeholders; and (iv) identifying Basin-related problems and recommending solutions.

6. Fiscal Impact: See Item 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal implications: Section 62.1-69.40 of the proposed legislation states that "funding for the Commission shall be a shared responsibility of the state and planning district commissions." The Rappahannock River Basin Commission enabling legislation (§ 62.1-25) contains similar language concerning funding. While \$60,000 for the Rappahannock River Basin Commission was provided in 2000-2002 biennial budget through Department of Conservation and Recreation, there is no funding recommended for the Commission in the proposed 2002-2004 budget.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Secretary of Natural Resources;
Localities in the Roanoke River Basin

10. Technical amendment necessary: None

11. Other comments: SB553 is similar legislation that proposes the establishment of the Roanoke River Basin Commission.

Date: 2/12/02/djy

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