

**Department of Planning and Budget
2003 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Bill Number HB2239

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron Pollard

3. Committee Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title Haul seine nets

5. Summary/Purpose: The bill changes the definition of a haul seine net. The current definition is ambiguous and has resulted in confusion in the proper setting and use of the gear. It has also forced haul seine to work in shallow waters where submerged aquatic vegetation beds are located.

6. No fiscal impact.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: Changing the definition will allow the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to prepare a haul seine fishery management plan that recognizes a more appropriate use of the gear, which will minimize the impact of the nets on the submerged aquatic vegetation beds. The cost of regulatory action to develop the fisheries management plan will be absorbed in the commission's current appropriation.

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

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 1/15/03 kbs

Document: G:\03Fis\Hb2239.Doc Kendra Shifflett

cc: Secretary of Natural Resources