

Department of Planning and Budget 2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB1116

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|------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| House of Origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Introduced | <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed |
| Second House | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute | <input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled |

2. Patron Whipple

3. Committee Agriculture, Chesapeake, & Natural Resources

4. Title Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act

5. Summary/Purpose:

Abolishes the Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Department (CBLAD) and places responsibility for administering the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Board continues as the policy-making board for implementation of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act and its regulations remain in effect. The bill also includes a clause directing the Secretary of Natural Resources to consider additional consolidations of the coastal and Chesapeake Bay programs and to report any action taken to that effect to the General Assembly by December 1, 2004.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are preliminary.

See item 8, below.

7. Budget amendment necessary:

Yes, items 377 and 380. See item 8, below.

8. Fiscal implications:

Language providing for the proposed merger of CBLAD into DCR is included in SB700. According to the language, contingent upon legislation amending the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget is to develop a plan to merge the two agencies and thereby transfer what are currently CBLAD's core responsibilities to DCR. The Senate Finance Committee has offered an amendment to the introduced budget requiring DCR to develop a plan for the merging of the agencies. At its current level of funding, DCR does not have resources that can be reassigned to effectively implement the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.

Additionally, the bill includes language requiring the Secretary of Natural Resources to consider additional consolidations of the state's coastal and Chesapeake Bay programs. The state's coastal and Chesapeake Bay programs involve other agencies within the natural resources secretariat and in other secretarial areas. The Department of Environmental Quality administers the Coastal Zone Management Program.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:

Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Department, the Departments of Conservation and Recreation, Environmental Quality, Game and Inland Fisheries, Forestry, and the Marine Resources Commission.

10. Technical amendment necessary:

No.

11. Other comments:

None.

Date: 02/03/03/tmw

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cc:SecretaryofNaturalResources
SecretaryofCommerceandTrade