

Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB40

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

2. **Patron:** Orrock

3. **Committee:** Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. **Title:** Agriculture education; development

5. **Summary/Purpose:** The bill establishes a unit of agriculture education specialists within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services who will assist in the development and revision of agriculture curriculum for inclusion in the Standards of Learning and provide professional development training for agriculture instructional personnel. The unit will be managed by the Department of Agriculture Education at Virginia Polytechnic and State University (Virginia Tech).

6. **Fiscal impact:** Estimates are preliminary.

6a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2003-04	\$0	N/A	N/A
2004-05	\$127,500	2.00	general fund (0100)
2005-06	\$127,500	2.00	general fund (0100)
2006-07	\$127,500	2.00	general fund (0100)
2007-08	\$127,500	2.00	general fund (0100)
2008-09	\$127,500	2.00	general fund (0100)
2009-10	\$127,500	2.00	general fund (0100)

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** Yes. Because there is no funding provided for agriculture specialists in House Bill 30, an amendment to Item 97 would be necessary to fund the unit. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services does not have available appropriation to absorb the costs.

8. **Fiscal implications:** Chapter 1042, the 2003 Appropriation Act, includes pass-through funding of \$75,000 from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to Virginia Tech for agriculture education specialists in FY 2004. The funding is not continued in House Bill 30, the 2004 – 2006 Budget Bill. Using the work being done by Virginia Tech as a model, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services estimates that the bill will require two curriculum specialists and related office and travel expenses.

The costs are estimated as:

Salaries (2 positions)	\$87,000
Fringe benefits	\$26,000
Travel and supplies	<u>\$19,500</u>
Total (each year)	\$127,500

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Polytechnic and State University.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: Paragraph B of the proposed bill specifies that any required reduction to the Department's budget shall be reflected in a proportional reduction to the agriculture specialist unit, but the reduction to the agriculture education unit shall not exceed the percentage reduction provided for in the Appropriation Act for the Department. This language may hinder the agency's administrative discretion in allocating budget reductions within the agency. In addition, § 4-1.04 of House Bill 30 provides for budget reductions to be implemented between sessions of the General Assembly. It is not clear if the language in Paragraph B addresses these circumstances, since it specifies "the percentage reduction provided for in the Appropriation Act."

Date: 1/27/04 kbs

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade