

## Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** HB 440

**House of Origin**    ☐ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed

**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☒ Enrolled

**2. Patron**        Suit

**3. Committee** Passed Both Houses

**4. Title**         Oil contingency plans and financial assurance

**5. Summary/Purpose:** The bill would provide operators of tank vessels with options regarding the types of oil discharge contingency plans and financial responsibility mechanisms that have to be submitted to operate in Virginia waters. Under current law, an oil discharge contingency plan has to be filed and approved by the State Water Control Board and the operator of the tank vessel has to also deposit, with the Board, cash or its equivalent in the amount of \$500 per gross ton of such vessel to assure against any environmental damage. The bill would allow an operator the option of submitting a U.S Coast Guard-approved vessel response plan in place of the state-required contingency plan, and to meet the financial assurance requirement by having a U.S. Coast Guard-approved Certificate of Financial Responsibility.

**6. Fiscal impact:** There would be no fiscal impact associated with this bill.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** According to the Department of Environmental Quality, it is anticipated that the workload for financial assurance reviews would be reduced. However, this would simply allow program staff to address responsibilities associated with emergency and disaster planning, preparation, and response.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Environmental Quality.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 03/10/04 / mar

**Document:** G:\LEGIS\2004\FIS\Hb440ER.DOC

cc: Secretary of Natural Resources