

Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB200

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

2. Patron: Reynolds

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation, and Natural Resources

4. Title: Beekeeper assistance

5. Summary/Purpose: The bill mandates that the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services establish a beekeeper assistance program that would assist Virginia beekeepers in maintaining healthy, productive bee colonies. The program would provide beekeepers with miticides for protecting their hives, establish a queen bee production program, and assist beekeepers in establishing a cooperative organization.

6. Fiscal impact estimates are: Preliminary.

6a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2003-04			
2004-05	\$125,000	0.00	general fund
2005-06	\$112,000	0.00	general fund
2006-07	\$112,000	0.00	general fund
2007-08	\$112,000	0.00	general fund
2008-09	\$112,000	0.00	general fund
2009-10	\$112,000	0.00	general fund

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, item 102 of Senate Bill 30 should be increased by the cost of the beekeeper assistance program. There is not funding available in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services current appropriation to support the program.

8. Fiscal implications: The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services estimates that the cost of implementing the beekeeper assistance program, as outlined in the bill would be:

- Miticides - Miticides cost approximately \$4 per treatment per hive. To distribute a single treatment of miticide to beekeepers for all Virginia hives would cost \$96,000 (2,000 beekeepers x 12 hives per beekeeper x \$4 per treatment). Packaging and distribution costs are estimated at \$4,000 for a total cost of \$100,000 to provide miticides.
- Queen production – Equipment needed for a queen production program includes hive equipment, protective clothing, grafting equipment, mating mucs, insemination

devises, apiary storage facilities, and apiary laboratory facilities. The estimated initial cost for equipment is \$13,000.

In addition, an hourly employee is required for the queen production program. A minimum of 20 hours weekly will be required from late February through October. Using an hourly wage of \$9, wages are estimated to be \$6,300 annually. Annual travel and equipment costs are estimated at \$5,700.

The total annual cost to maintain a queen production program is \$12,000.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 1/23/04 kbs

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade