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: R	eynolds

- 3. Committee: Passed Both Houses
- **4. Title:** Beekeeper assistance
- **5. Summary/Purpose:** The bill authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, in consultation with the Plant Pollination Advisory Board, to establish a beekeeper assistance program that would assist Virginia beekeepers in maintaining healthy, productive bee colonies.
- 6. No fiscal impact.
- 7. Budget amendment necessary: No.
- 8. Fiscal implications: None.
- **9.** Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Plant Pollination Advisory Board.
- 10. Technical amendment necessary: No.
- **11. Other comments:** Specific requirements for a beekeeper assistance program included in the introduced version of the bill were eliminated by the House to allow the agency flexibility in meeting the needs of Virginia's beekeeping industry. Neither the Senate nor the House proposed a budget amendment to HB30/SB30 to provide funds to support specific programs requested by beekeepers. According to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), until such time as additional funding for this purpose is made available, VDACS cannot develop and implement an enhanced assistance program for Virginia's beekeeping industry.

Date: 3/05/04 tmw Document: G:\2004 Session\Legislation\Sb200er.Doc

cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade