Department of Planning and Budget 2005 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number HB 2027			
	House of Orig	in Introduced	Substitute	Engrossed
	Second House	In Committee	Substitute	Enrolled
2.	Patron	Dudley		
3.	Committee	Passed Both Houses		
4.	Title	Economic developme	ent services in rural	areas; strategic plan.

- 5. Summary/Purpose: The bill would require that the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the Center for Rural Virginia, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission, the Virginia Employment Commission, the Virginia Tourism Authority, the Virginia Community College System, institutions of higher education within rural regions of the Commonwealth, and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall jointly develop and implement a rural economic development strategic plan. At a minimum, the plan shall address: (i) education, including pre-kindergarten, primary, secondary, and postgraduate resources, and comprehensive workforce development programs, as they may pertain to the Workforce Development Act; (ii) infrastructure, including capital for water and sewer upgrading, waste management, law enforcement, housing, primary and secondary roads, and telecommunications; (iii) traditional industrial development and industry retention programs, including assistance in financing and workforce training; (iv) recreation and cultural enhancement and related quality of life measures, including parks, civic centers, and theaters; (v) agribusiness incentives to promote the use of new technologies, and the exploration of new market opportunities; and (vi) a revolving loan fund or loan guarantee program to help start or expand entrepreneurial activities, especially small business activities in rural communities.
- 6. Fiscal impacts cannot be determined: According to the various agencies that would participate in the strategic planning process, it is anticipated that any fiscal impacts incurred during development of the strategic plan would be minimal and could be absorbed within the agencies' existing appropriations. However, future costs associated with implementation of the rural economic development strategic plan may require additional funding. At this time, it is not possible to project any such costs since the plan has not yet been developed.
- 7. Budget amendment necessary: No.
- **8. Fiscal implications:** Se Item 6.
- 9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Virginia Economic Development Partnership; Center for Rural Virginia; Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development; Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission; Virginia Employment Commission; Virginia Tourism Authority; Virginia Community College System, institutions of higher education within rural regions of the Commonwealth; and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: This bill is identical to SB893.

Date: 03/07/2005 / dma

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade Secretary of Natural Resources Secretary of Education