

Department of Planning and Budget 2005 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1306

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

2. Patron: Mims

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Board for Architects, Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects; land surveying

5. Summary/Purpose: The bill provides an exemption from licensure as a land surveyor for persons utilizing photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology to determine topography, contours, or depiction of physical improvements provided such determination shall not be used for the design, modification, or construction of improvements to real property, or for flood plain determination. The bill authorizes the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects to adopt regulations establishing different licensure requirements for a limited area of the practice of land surveying for persons who determine topography, contours or depiction of physical improvements utilizing photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology and who are not otherwise exempt. Any such requirements shall include reasonable provisions for licensure without examination of persons deemed by the Board to be qualified to provide photogrammetric and remote sensing surveying services.

6. Fiscal Impact: Estimates are preliminary.

6a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2004-05	\$0	0.00	---
2005-06	\$80,000	0.00	NGF
2006-07	\$5,000	0.00	NGF

6b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2004-05	\$0	---
2005-06	\$5,000	NGF
2006-07	\$5,000	NGF

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes; Item number 126 of Senate Bill 700, for additional revenue and recurring costs of \$5,000 annually. If exam development expenditures are necessary in FY 2006, the appropriation will be adjusted administratively.

8. Fiscal implications: According to the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, at this time it is unknown if there will be costs associated with development of an examination to test proficiency in order to become licensed as a photogrammetrist. Item 6a.

includes \$75,000 in FY 2006 for exam development. The amount is based on estimates provided by a vendor, and actual costs could vary substantially. If the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) develops an exam for photogrammetry, the department would not need to incur the exam development cost. In that case, the cost of the NCEES exam would be paid directly by the applicants, and would have no fiscal impact on the department.

Recurring expenditures relate to postage, printing, board member meetings, travel and per diem, and other operating costs associated with the regulatory program.

Revenue: In accordance with the provisions of § 54.1-113, Code of Virginia, licensing fees are established at rates adequate to cover a program's operating costs and a proportionate share of agency support costs. The department estimates at least 100 regulants for this program, providing revenue of approximately \$5,000 annually.

Cost to Regulants: Based on current land surveyor licensing fees, the cost to regulants will be \$45 annually, which is not considered to have a material impact on an individual's ability to practice the profession.

- 9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

- 11. Other comments:** The Senate amendment clarifies the exemption from licensing as a land surveyor and specifies the wording to be used on documentation prepared by those not licensed.

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade