

Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB1443

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron Phillips

3. Committee Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title Assessment of wireless communication and miner locator systems

5. Summary/Purpose: This bill requires mine operators to include a mine emergency communication plan as a component of the emergency response plan required for each mine. The Chief of the Division of Mines may require periodic updates to the plan and operators shall comply with the requirements of the approved plan. Additionally, the legislation requires the Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME) to assess wireless communication and miner locator systems to determine their effectiveness and availability. DMME shall prepare a report of their findings and recommendations. The Chief of the Division of Mines may require the use of such systems as part of the operator's mine emergency response plan.

This bill has an emergency clause and will be in force from its passage.

6. No Fiscal Impact: According to the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) this bill has no fiscal impact. DMME will implement the legislation using existing resources.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: See Item 6.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: The introduced version of this bill explicitly required wireless communication in all underground mines. The substitute version says the Chief of the Division of Mines may require use of such systems.

Date: 02/09/06 / dma

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