

Department of Planning and Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB1136

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

2. Patron McDougle

3. Committee General Laws and Technology

4. Title Council on Indians.

5. Summary/Purpose: This bill changes the membership of the Council from its current inclusion of legislative members, to consist only of the chiefs of the Virginia tribes officially recognized by the Commonwealth. The bill also provides for the chair and vice-chair to be elected from the membership annually, and authorizes each tribal chief to appoint a designee to serve as his representative at meetings and other activities of the Council. In addition, the bill provides that it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to recognize the sovereignty of Virginia tribes officially recognized by the Commonwealth and to operate with such tribes on a sovereign-to-sovereign basis.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: Preliminary, see Item 8 (below)

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: The fiscal impact of this bill will be very negligible, if at all. The bill specifies that the members of the Council shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Historically, reimbursement costs have consisted almost entirely of travel expenses. Therefore there is the possibility that there could be some fiscal savings on travel expenses as this bill reduces the number of members on the Council from the current number of 16, down to a maximum of eight members. However, spending records for the Council indicate that few members have consistently requested reimbursement for travel expenses, thereby making it unlikely that there would be savings even after a membership reduction of eight.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Council on Indians (within the Office of the Secretary of Natural Resources).

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: HB 2876 is a companion to this bill.

Date: 1/15/07 / aek

Document: G:\2007 Fiscal Impact Statements\SB1136.Doc aek

cc: Secretary of Natural Resources