

## Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB121

House of Origin	<u>  X  </u>	Introduced	<u>    </u>	Substitute	<u>    </u>	Engrossed
Second House	<u>    </u>	In Committee	<u>    </u>	Substitute	<u>    </u>	Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Edwards

**3. Committee:** Transportation

**4. Title:** Creating the TransDominion Express Commission.

**5. Summary:** The proposed legislation would establish the TransDominion Express Commission, to be responsible, within the TransDominion Corridor, for identifying needed construction, reconstruction, improvements of or repairs to railroads and their facilities and equipment to provide enhanced passenger rail service coordinated with freight rail opportunities within the corridor. The bill also repeals Chapter 1041 of the 2003 Acts of Assembly, which provided for the creation of a Rail Transportation Development Authority, but never became effective, because it included a reenactment clause and the act was not reenacted.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item 8.

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation would create the TransDominion Express Commission, initially consisting of 15 voting members and one ex-officio member. Three members are to be appointed by the Governor, one member from the House, one from the Senate, and 10 from certain planning district commissions. The initial members are to establish bylaws and requirements for membership, including provision for membership of individual localities and the minimum dues or other financial obligations required for voting privileges.

Section 2.2-2813 establishes a compensation rate of \$50 for citizen members of boards or commissions, in addition to the reimbursement of necessary and actual expenses. Members of the General Assembly receive a per diem of \$200 when engaged in legislative business between sessions, in addition to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses. State employees are not reimbursed for meetings or expenses. Using a figure of \$250 in actual and necessary expenses per member, the reimbursement of the two General Assembly members and 13 citizen members would equal \$4,800 per meeting. If four meetings were held a year, the commission would cost \$19,200 annually. The proposed legislation does not specify a source of funding for the expenses.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** None.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** None.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 1/21/2008 dpb/smc

**Document:** G:\GA\FIS 2008\SB121.doc

cc: Secretary of Transportation