

Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1050

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

2. Patron: Whipple

3. Committee: Passed both Houses

4. Title: Virginia Natural Resources Commitment Fund; funding

5. Summary: The bill provides for the Department of Conservation and Recreation, in consultation with stakeholders, to determine the annual funding needs for agricultural best management practices and to provide the same to the Governor. The bill also changes the distribution formula for the fund.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: The bill does not have a fiscal impact. See item 8.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill provides for the Department of Conservation and Recreation to provide the Governor and Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committee with an annual funding amount for effective soil and water conservation districts technical assistance and implementation of agricultural best management practices. Any costs associated with development of the funding amount may be absorbed by the department.

The bill directs that deposits to the fund be used for the Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost Share program and divided between matching grants for lands within the Chesapeake Bay watershed (55 percent), matching grants for lands outside of the Chesapeake Bay watershed (37 percent), and local soil and water conservation districts (eight percent).

The Department of Conservation and Recreation administers the funding and the soil and water conservation districts provide technical assistance for the Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-share program.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Conservation and Recreation, soil and water conservation districts.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The bill is identical to House Bill 2351.

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cc: Secretary of Natural Resources