

Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1295

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☒ Engrossed

Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Reynolds

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Silvicultural activities.

5. Summary: Authorizes the State Forester to enter and inspect lands where silvicultural activities are occurring in order to determine whether the activity is causing or likely to cause pollution. Also, requires any landowner to include his or her name, or the name of his or her representative, and contact information in the notification provided to the Department of Forestry prior to the commencement of any silvicultural activities.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are preliminary. See item 8, below.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

8. Fiscal Implications: Prior to beginning a silvicultural operation, the operator must notify the Department of Forestry. The proposed legislation would require the operator to include his name or his legal agent's name and contact information. Currently, the landowner is not required to furnish this information. According to the agency, the bill will have an expenditure impact to the agency. Forestry will need to make one-time systems changes to its data management systems to capture the operator's contact information.

Also, the legislation permits Forestry to enter a silvicultural operation site for inspection without notification to the landowner to determine whether the operation is causing, or is likely to cause, pollution.

Any costs associated with the legislative proposal can be absorbed within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Forestry.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 2/13/2009 tmw

Document: G:\2009 Session\Legislation\Fiscal Impact Statements\SB1295E.DOC

cc: Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry