

Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 871-ER

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

2. Patron: Ticer

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Reporting requirements; Department of Health

5. Summary: Relieves the Department of Health of its responsibility to report to the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry on the implementation of policies related to the protection of farm and forest lands. After the transfer of responsibilities for the land application of biosolids to the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Health no longer has duties that impact farmland preservation.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: None.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

8. Fiscal Implications: None.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Health, Department of Environmental Quality, Secretary of Natural Resources, and Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The legislation exempts the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) from submitting an annual plan to the Secretary of Natural Resources and Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, which contains the analysis of the impact that the agency's regulations and projects have on the conversion of farm and forest lands. The exemption of this reporting requirement does not have a fiscal impact for VDH.

The legislation is consistent with House Bill 2802, passed by the 2007 General Assembly, which consolidated the regulation of the biosolids program under the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The responsibility for the regulation of the biosolids program had been shared between DEQ and VDH. The passage of the legislation removed VDH's responsibilities relating to farm preservation, which would no longer require VDH to submit an annual plan analyzing the impact of its regulations and projects on the conversion of farm and forest lands. VDH transferred appropriation and positions provided for the biosolids program to DEQ and are reflected in the 2008 Appropriations Act, Chapter 879.

Date: 3/3/2009 lrj

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources
Secretary of Natural Resources
Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry