Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number	r: SB347
	House of Orig	in Introduced Substitute Engrossed
	Second House	In Committee Substitute _x Enrolled
2.	Patron:	Hanger
3.	Committee:	Passed both houses.
4.	Title:	Center for Rural Virginia: additional duties for expansion and promotion of agricultural opportunities.

- **5. Summary:** This bill provides the Center for Rural Virginia with the additional authority to facilitate the development of incentives and to provide a forum for competing interests to allow for job creation and expanded economic opportunities for farm businesses and rural enterprises while ensuring the rights of localities to develop reasonable regulations of such farm businesses and rural enterprises to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents. The Center will also sponsor a task force comprised of representatives of local government and agricultural interests to examine and make recommendations on issues related to the expansion and promotion of farm businesses or rural enterprises over the upcoming year.
- **6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See item 8.
- 7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.
- **8. Fiscal Implications:** While this bill will have no fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, it may have a fiscal impact on localities. The fiscal impact on localities is indeterminate.
- **9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- **10.** Technical Amendment Necessary: No.
- 11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to the enrolled version of House Bill 582.

The second enactment clause states that the Center for Rural Virginia shall facilitate the creation of a rural enterprise opportunity task force to develop strategies that expand and promote economic opportunities of the agriculture industry throughout the Commonwealth. The task force shall be comprised of at least one representative from the Virginia Farm Bureau, the Virginia Agribusiness Council, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Association of Counties, and the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association, and shall include at least one owner of a farm business or rural enterprise interested in expanded economic opportunities. The task force shall examine and make recommendations on the following issues as such issues are related to the expansion and promotion of farm

businesses or rural enterprises: (i) local ordinances that may be unreasonably restrictive and efforts by localities to lessen such restrictions; (ii) provisions in law or regulation that may be unreasonably restrictive; (iii) innovative approaches taken to expand economic opportunities while preserving the rural character of the surrounding area; (iv) best management practices and successful strategies adopted in other states; (v) model ordinances and regulations that allow the marketing and sale of products or services; (vi) tax, regulatory, and other incentives; (vii) the structure and organizational design of a program that could encourage expansion and opportunity on an ongoing basis; (viii) the definition and eligibility of a qualified rural enterprise; and (ix) any other issues the task force deems relevant to meet the objectives of the study. The task force shall complete its work and provide, by November 1, 2010, its written recommendations in a report to the chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources.

Date: 3/10/2010 dpbbrb

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