

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1715

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

**2. Patron:** Wilt

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Notification of conservation easement.

**5. Summary:** This bill changes the state agencies that are to receive notice of the recordation of a conservation easement. The bill requires that copies of the easement and any associated plats be mailed to the commissioner of revenue for the locality in which the property under easement is located, the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF), and any other public body named in the instrument. Currently, notice of easements must be sent to the Office of the Attorney General, VOF, and the locality. In addition, this bill adds the requirement that when any easement is on lands where there is a historic place or landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the Virginia Landmarks Register, notice of the date and place of recordation has to be given to the Department of Historic Resources rather than the Virginia Historic Landmarks Board, which currently receives such notice.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill shifts notification to state agencies with more in-depth responsibilities regarding the management of conservation easements. However, according to DCR, the current rate of compliance with sending notifications of easements is very low. Therefore, while this bill may assist agencies in their efforts to track and administer programs related to conservation easements, any changes are anticipated to be minimal and should not have a fiscal impact.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Conservation and Recreation, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Historic Resources, Virginia Outdoors Foundation, and any other public body named in the instrument conveying a conservation easement.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** January 24, 2011

c: Secretary of Natural Resources