

**Department of Planning and Budget  
2011 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB1972

**House of Origin**     Introduced     Substitute     Engrossed  
**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute     Enrolled

**2. Patron:**    Robinson

**3. Committee:** Transportation

**4. Title:**    Golf carts and utility vehicles.

**5. Summary:** This bill authorizes limited over-the-road operation of golf carts and utility vehicles by Department of Conservation and Recreation employees, provided the speed limit on the highway is no more than 35 mph.

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

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill is not anticipated to have any fiscal impact on the state. The bill permits the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to operate golf carts or utility vehicles on portions of public highways located within DCR property and on Virginia Department of Transportation- (VDOT) maintained highways that are adjacent to DCR property, provided the highway speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. The bill also includes language that would exempt DCR from local ordinances that impose additional and more stringent restrictions on the operation of golf carts or utility vehicles on public highways within its boundaries.

Current law prohibits use of golf carts and utility vehicles on most roads within or adjacent to DCR-operated state parks, as these roads are part of the VDOT-maintained secondary road system. This bill would permit DCR staff to operate golf carts and utility vehicles for duties necessary to the operations of the state park system.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia State Police, Virginia Department of Transportation.

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

**11. Other Comments:** The Department of State Police is in support of this bill.

**Date:** January 21, 2011  
c: Secretary of Natural Resources