

## Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB8

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

**2. Patron:**        Edmunds, J. E.

**3. Committee:** Appropriations

**4. Title:**        Vessel accident; requires passengers 18 years of age or older to report, penalty.

**5. Summary:** This substitute bill requires any passenger 18 years of age or older who is a passenger in a vessel that is involved in an accident in which the operator has (i) failed to stop and render assistance and (ii) failed to report the accident in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries, to notify, within 24 hours, a law-enforcement officer, conservation police officer, or an officer of the Virginia Marine Police. If such a report is not filed, the passenger is subject to a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill contains technical amendments.

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

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate. See Item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** There is no expectation of a fiscal impact on the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries or the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. However, the legislation could result in an increase in the jail population since Class 1 misdemeanor outcomes result in sentences of up to 12 months in jail (and a fine up to \$2,500). Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's FY 2010 Jail Cost Report (November 1, 2011), the estimated total state support for local and regional jails averaged \$29.98 per state inmate, per day in FY 2010.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; Virginia Marine Resources Commission; state and local courts, jails, correctional facilities.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 2/8/12

**Document:** G:\Legislation\2012 Session\HB8H1.doc