

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1154 –S1

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

2. Patron: Wexton

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Discharge of deleterious substance into state waters; notice.

5. Summary: Requires any person who unlawfully discharges any deleterious substance into state waters to notify the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) and the coordinator of emergency services of the affected locality within 12 hours. The bill also requires the State Water Board or the Department to provide each report of a discharge to local newspapers, television stations, and radio stations as soon as practicable after receiving it.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation would require that the State Water Control Board or the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) provide information related to violations of water regulations and notifications of discharges that exceed permit limitations to local newspapers, television stations, and radio stations as soon as practicable. According to DEQ, any anticipated expenditure impact could be absorbed within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The State Water Control Board, the Department of Environmental Quality, and localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: Currently, the Department of Health determines if the discharge may be detrimental to public health, and rarely do these incidents pose an immediate threat or emergency to human health or to the environment.

Date: 02/02/2015 /jlm
cc: Secretary of Natural Resources