

Department of Planning and Budget

2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1242

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

2. Patron: Deeds

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Nurseries; labeling of plants treated with pollinator-lethal insecticides.

5. Summary: This bill prohibits the labeling or advertisement of a plant as being beneficial to pollinators if the plant contains a detectable level of a systemic insecticide that is harmful to pollinators. The bill defines "pollinator" as an insect that pollinates flowers.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate. See item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill will require inspectors of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to collect plant samples and submit them for laboratory analysis to determine the presence and level of pesticides of concern in plant tissue. According to VDACS, the estimated cost per sample is \$325 which is paid to the Division of Consolidated Laboratories at the Department of General Services. At this time, it is not possible to predict the total number of samples that would be submitted for laboratory analysis pursuant to the provisions of this bill. The department estimates that between 25 and 50 complaints may be received each year, and sample testing will be conducted as part of the complaint investigations. Therefore, costs may range up to \$16,250 annually. At this time, however, VDACS believes it can accommodate the enforcement provisions of the bill with existing appropriations and personnel in its nursery inspection program.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Division of Consolidated Laboratories at the Department of General Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.