

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number** HB1412

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron** Cole

3. **Committee** Transportation

4. **Title:** Weight limits; increases maximum gross weight of a motor vehicle eligible for an overload permit.

5. **Summary/Purpose:** This bill allows the owner of a motor vehicle with a gross weight of up to 90,000 pounds to obtain a permit to authorize the operation of such vehicle, provided that the vehicle can bridge the weight without any axle or group overweight allowance.

6. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item #8.

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** No.

8. **Fiscal implications:** Implementation of this bill requires one-time programming costs of \$24,991 to update computer systems at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) with the revised permits. The agency may also need to redesign the current permits which bear a large "5" to reflect that they authorize the vehicles to be 5 percent overweight. This may require alteration of the permit to reflect the new weight limit authorized by the permit. The cost of such a redesign is unknown at this time. It is expected that the agency can absorb these costs within existing resources.

Since the permits authorized by this section will be more flexible than current blanket permits, it is possible that more permits will be sold. The exact number of extra permits that would be sold cannot be anticipated, but there may be considerable new demand for these permits because they will allow trucks to run at heavier weights off of the Interstate as a matter of routine. For each new permit sold, the Highway Maintenance and Operating Fund would receive \$245 and DMV would receive \$5.

This bill also impacts the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), although the precise fiscal impact cannot be determined. More trucks on the road with increased size and weights will negatively impact highway infrastructure. Increased loading will decrease the service life of the pavement and bridges. This bill will cause accelerated pavement and bridge damage over time, resulting in more frequent need for repair.

9. **Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Motor Vehicles, Virginia Department of Transportation.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 12/27/2016

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cc: Secretary of Transportation