

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1574

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

2. Patron: Helsel

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Oysters culling regulation; cargo of oysters shall be scattered on public rocks.

5. Summary: Provides that any person charged with violating any regulation governing the culling of oysters will be required to scatter the cargo of oysters on the public rocks. Also provides that the person charged with the violation may post a bond by credit card, check or cash. If the person charged posts a bond by credit card, the Marine Resources Commission may collect credit card service charges. The bill also includes technical changes.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See Item 8 below.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Marine Resources Commission (MRC) does not currently have the capability to accept credit card payments. It is anticipated that this bill will result in a fiscal impact to MRC as the bill allows the person charged with the violation to post a bond by credit card, check, or cash with the Marine Police Officer. However, it is anticipated that any impact can be absorbed within existing resources.

MRC anticipates the volume of credit card transactions for the payment of penalties will be low. MRC estimates that its officers have 30 to 50 culling violation events per year. Not all of those events would result in a bond payment and not all bond payments would result in a credit card bond payment. Thus, it is anticipated that MRC will need to acquire one credit card terminal to be located at MRC's headquarters location at a one-time cost of approximately \$500. It is also anticipated that MRC will incur annual costs of approximately \$150 in vendor fees, and a three percent transaction or service fee, for each credit card transaction. The bill allows MRC to recover the actual service fee charges applied to a transaction.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Marine Resources Commission.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: HB1573 requires MRC to accept credit card payments for the payment of any civil penalty it assesses for fishing under a revoked license.