

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2017 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB2022

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

**2. Patron:** Villanueva

**3. Committee:** Passed both houses.

**4. Title:** Department of Transportation; traffic incident response and management.

**5. Summary:** Allows individuals or entities acting on behalf of the Department of Transportation to operate as needed in response to traffic incidents and to access and to remove from moving lanes on a highway vehicles and cargo that are impeding traffic flow due to a traffic incident. The bill requires a driver to move a vehicle from the roadway after an emergency, accident, or breakdown that did not result in injury or death if the vehicle is movable and the driver is capable of safely doing so. Current law allows drivers to move a vehicle from the roadway after an accident if the vehicle is movable and the driver is capable of safely doing so, but does not require it.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This proposal has the potential to reduce traffic congestion by requiring vehicles in accidents who can safely do so to move to the shoulder, and allowing Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) assets to more quickly move vehicles off the road. This in turn could avoid costs to VDOT and Department of State Police related to resources provided by these agencies to address traffic accident incidents. Reduction in congestion also reduces the cost of time lost to motorists and businesses impacted by traffic congestion.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Transportation; law enforcement agencies.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.