

Department of Planning and Budget

2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB964

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

2. Patron: Hanger

3. Committee: Local Government

4. Title: Running bamboo; cutting by localities; ordinance prohibiting spread; designation of certain plants.

5. Summary: This bill authorizes any locality to adopt ordinances requiring proper upkeep of running bamboo and prohibiting the spread of running bamboo from a landowner's property, with violations punishable by a civil penalty of \$50. The bill includes running bamboo in the "other foreign growth" that current law allows localities to regulate and in some cases to cut. The substitute version of the bill clarifies the definition of running bamboo. The bill also directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to develop a model running bamboo ordinance and, with the Department of Forestry, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding that clarifies the roles of the VDACS noxious weeds regulations and the work of the Virginia Invasive Species Working Group. Finally, the bill directs VDACS and DCR to examine the eligibility of certain plants for designation as noxious weeds.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any costs associated with the development of the model ordinance, development of the memorandum of understanding, and examining the eligibility of certain plant species for designation as noxious weeds can be absorbed by DCR, VDACS, and the Department of Forestry. The bill provides that violations of the provisions are subject to civil penalties. The revenue resulting from these penalties cannot be determined at this time. All fines are deposited to the state Literary Fund.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected Department of Conservation and Recreation; Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Department of Forestry; localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.