

Department of Planning and Budget

2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB838

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: Spruill

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Virginia Conservation Police Review Board.

5. Summary: This bill creates a six-member review board composed of a current or retired State Police officer and a criminal defense lawyer, both appointed by the Governor; a recreational angler and a hunter, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Senate Rules Committee, respectively; the chairman of the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries; and the Attorney General or his designee, who shall be a nonvoting member. The review board is tasked with reviewing (i) citizen complaints of misconduct by conservation police officers, (ii) the performance of conservation police officers in carrying out the policy of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (the Department), and (iii) the level of coordination and the relationships between conservation police officers and other law-enforcement agencies. The bill authorizes the review board to have access to all Department law-enforcement records, facilities, and landholdings and requires the review board to report its findings to the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries. The bill also authorizes the review board to refer serious cases of officer misconduct to the Secretary of Natural Resources with a recommendation for disciplinary action or termination of employment.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The expenditure impact of this bill to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) is indeterminate, as the frequency of Review Board meetings is unknown. The anticipated cost for each review board meeting is \$5,500, which is based on expenditures incurred by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries. Such expenditures include travel, lodging, meals and meeting supplies. Each member of the Review Board will be reimbursed for their expenses. DGIF anticipates that the costs to establish the Review Board can be absorbed within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: Yes, Line 45, strike “Commission” and insert “Review Board”.

11. Other Comments: None.