

Department of Planning and Budget

2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1822

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

2. Patron: Bulova

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund; grant for wastewater conveyance facility, etc.

5. Summary: Allows the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to authorize grants from the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund for the installation of certain wastewater conveyance infrastructure. Any such infrastructure shall divert wastewater from one publicly owned treatment works that is eligible for grant funding to another such eligible treatment works which is capable of achieving compliance with its nutrient reduction or ammonia control discharge, results in a net reduction in total phosphorus, total nitrogen, or nitrogen-containing ammonia discharges, and results in no more expense to the Fund than would otherwise be incurred to install eligible nutrient removal technology or other treatment technology at the treatment works from which the wastewater will be diverted. The bill also directs DEQ to consult with stakeholders annually to estimate the amount of grant funding that local governments will request during the upcoming year from (i) the Fund and (ii) the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund and to submit those estimates to the Governor as part of a biennial funding report and an annual progress report that are required by current law. The bill contains technical amendments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See #8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill expands the eligibility criteria for Water Quality Improvement grants. As a result, there may be an increase in the number of applications to be reviewed and processed by DEQ. Additionally, this bill requires DEQ to annually estimate and report the amount of funds local governments are expected to request from the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund and the Water Quality Improvement Fund for point source projects. It is anticipated that any fiscal impact on DEQ as a result of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Environmental Quality, localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.