

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB2341

|                        |                                     |              |                          |            |                          |           |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| <b>House of Origin</b> | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> | Enrolled  |

**2. Patron:** Edmunds

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Forester title.

**5. Summary:** Authorizes a person who has met the educational criteria for Certified Forester, as reviewed and officially recognized in writing by the Society of American Foresters (the Society), to use the title of "forester" in connection with any practice of forestry. Current law limits such use of the title to a person who holds a baccalaureate or higher degree from an institution of higher education, having completed a degree program that is accredited by the Society and meets the Society's minimum education criteria in certain fields of study. The bill contains technical amendments.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that any costs the Department of Forestry may incur for employees who qualify for the title of "forester" under this provision can be absorbed within existing resources.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Forestry.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.