

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB776

**House of Origin**     Introduced     Substitute     Engrossed  
**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute     Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Lewis

**3. Committee:** Passed the Senate

**4. Title:** Wetlands protection; living shorelines.

**5. Summary:** Requires the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to promulgate and periodically update minimum standards for the protection and conservation of wetlands and to approve only living shoreline approaches to shoreline stabilization where the best available science shows that such approaches are feasible. The bill has a clause stating that its provisions shall not become effective unless an appropriation effectuating its purposes is included in a general appropriation act passed in 2020 by the General Assembly that becomes law.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No. See Item 8.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This measure increases responsibilities of the Marine Resources Commission (MRC), including the development of regulations to incorporate living shorelines in wetland management. HB/SB30, as introduced, includes \$78,250 in FY 2021 and \$78,150 in FY 2022 from the general fund to support the addition of a Coastal Resiliency Manager. With this additional funding and position, MRC will be able to absorb any impact resulting from this bill.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Marine Resources Commission.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.