

Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB1282

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

2. **Patron:** Morrissey

3. **Committee:** Finance and Appropriations

4. **Title:** Greenhouse gas emissions inventory; regulations.

5. **Summary:** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to conduct a statewide baseline and projection inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions and to update such inventory every four years. The bill requires that the inventory be published and included in the annual report of the State Air Pollution Control Board. The bill also authorizes the Board to adopt regulations necessary to collect data needed to conduct, update, and maintain the inventory. The bill further provides that certain proprietary information, except emissions data, that is reported or otherwise obtained by DEQ pursuant to this bill shall be confidential and exempt from the mandatory disclosure requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Each owner shall notify the DEQ of the existence of proprietary information if such protection is desired.

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

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** According to DEQ, the funds to address any costs associated with inventory development and maintenance are addressed in the Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act (HB 981/SB 1027), which passed during the 2020 session. As part of participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and associated climate work, DEQ is to develop and update greenhouse gas inventories. DEQ has hired one FTE at \$115,000 annually to be the lead staff expert and contact for these inventories. One-time contractual assistance estimated at \$300,000 in fiscal year 2022 is also needed at the front end of this effort. DEQ intends to utilize the portion of the revenue from the proceeds recovered from the sale of carbon allowances through RGGI to support these efforts.

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

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

11. **Other Comments:** None.