

Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1615

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

2. Patron: Ward

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Cemeteries and graves of historic significance.

5. Summary: This bill expands the existing practice of providing funds for the maintenance and care of grave sites of Confederate soldiers and sailors, to also provide funds for the maintenance and care of grave sites of slaves. This bill requires the Department of Historic Resources to develop a procedure for the certification of grave sites of slaves for the purpose of assisting groups interested in maintaining such sites to verify the accuracy of information indicating that slaves are buried at the site. Finally, this bill adds two cemeteries owned by the City of Richmond to the list of sites eligible to receive money for maintenance.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 363.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2011	\$0	0.00	n/a
2012	\$32,495	0.00	General
2013	\$32,495	0.00	General
2014	\$32,495	0.00	General
2015	\$32,495	0.00	General
2016	\$32,495	0.00	General
2017	\$32,495	0.00	General

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill expands the sites eligible to receive funding for care and maintenance of graves, cemeteries, markers, memorials and monuments of “historic significance” to include those of slaves. Currently, under § 10.1-2211 of the Code of Virginia, funding is only provided to eligible grave sites of Confederate soldiers and sailors. As instructed by current law and included in this bill, \$5 is provided for each grave site, monument or marker specified either in the aforementioned Code section or in the Appropriation Act. This bill proposes the addition of sites at Barton Heights Cemeteries (1,877 sites) and Mt. Olivet Cemetery (4,622 sites), for a total of 6,499 additional sites eligible to receive funding for care and maintenance. At \$5 per site, it is anticipated that this bill will result in a general fund impact of \$32,495 per year. The state agency responsible for

administering these grant payments is the Department of Historic Resources (DHR). It is anticipated that any additional work required for the distribution of these payments can be absorbed by the agency within current resources.

This bill also requires the Director of DHR, in consultation with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia, the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, and the Burying Ground Preservation Society of Virginia, to develop a procedure for the certification of slave grave sites. This additional responsibility is not anticipated to result in a significant fiscal impact on the agency and can be absorbed within current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Historic Resources.

9. Technical Amendment Necessary: Yes, line 69. An amendment to the section title of § 10.1-2211 is needed to specify inclusion of slave grave sites.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: January 18, 2011

c: Secretary of Natural Resources