

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB946

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Wagner, F. W.

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Public beaches; authorizes Marine Resources Commission and Department of Environmental Quality to establish procedure for sand dredging and replenishment.

5. Summary: This bill authorizes the Marine Resources Commission (MRC) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to establish an expedited procedure for sand dredging and beach replenishment on the public beaches abutting the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. The bill requires the agencies to establish a working group, consisting of representatives from affected localities, to assist in the development of an expedited review process to issue permits for approved projects. The working group is to consider a requirement that the application for the sand replenishment project permit include the submission of a mining plan by the locality for areas within the Chesapeake Bay from which the dredged material will be taken and the location of the beach replenishment project. The bill provides several types of information that such a plan would include, such as the analysis of benthic, marine, and fishery resources; impact on any historical artifacts; and impact on other uses of the state waters and bottomlands at the dredge site.

In addition, the bill specifies that the review process be conducted with the consultation of MRC, DEQ, the State Health Department, the Department of Historic Resources, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and any other appropriate or interested state agency.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that this bill will not have a material fiscal impact on MRC, DEQ, the State Health Department, or the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. According to the Department of Historic Resources, it is difficult to predict the complexity and number of possible dredging projects, which may impact the resources needed to complete historical and/or environmental reviews. Thus, the impact on the department is indeterminate at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Marine Resources Commission, Department of Environmental Quality, State Health Department, Department of Historic Resources, Virginia Institute of Marine Science; localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to HB1531.

Date: 1/18/13

Document: G:\Legislation\2013 Session\FIS\SB946.docx