

Department of Planning and Budget

2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2331

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: Webert

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Definition of fur-bearing animal.

5. Summary: This bill defines the fisher as a fur-bearing animal in hunting and trapping provisions of the Code of Virginia. The fisher (*Martes pennanti*) is a small carnivorous mammal native to North America. It is a member of the weasel family.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that, at this time, this bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. According to the department, populations of the fisher are low in the Commonwealth. If the population were to increase to a level deemed sufficient to sustain a limited harvest, then it may be appropriate for the agency to establish a trapping season for this species.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.