

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB285

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: Stolle

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Oyster grounds; dredging projects in waters of Lynnhaven River.

5. Summary: Allows dredging projects to improve, deepen, or restore navigation channels in the navigable waters of the Lynnhaven River and its creeks and tributaries in those areas approved by the Marine Resources Commission provided that the person conducting the dredging designs the project to minimize the effects on active oyster-producing beds. To the extent that disturbance of any such beds cannot be avoided, the bill requires the person conducting the dredging to pay (i) the costs of relocating the oyster material that would be disturbed; or (ii) the leaseholder for any loss of oysters that are in production in an amount to be determined by the Marine Resources Commission.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate. See Item 8, below.

8. Fiscal Implications: The fiscal impact for the Marine Resources Commission is indeterminate. At this time, it is not possible to quantify the amount of time, effort and associated costs that would be required of the agency's Fisheries Management Division to assess the value of oysters for the purpose of reimbursement to the holder of a lease for any loss of oysters that are in production. The agency is tasked with the management and replenishment of public oyster grounds in Virginia and does not currently have a process to assess the value of oysters.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.