

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB252

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: Ruff

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: State Forester; century forest program.

5. Summary: Directs the Department of Forestry to establish and administer a century forest program to honor families whose property has been in the same family for 100 years or more and includes at least 20 contiguous acres of managed forest. Eligibility requirements for the program include (i) ownership of the property by the same family for at least 100 consecutive years; (ii) the property should be lived on, or managed by, a descendant of the original owners; and (iii) the property should be covered by a professional forest management plan. The bill also removes the option for the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to recognize a farm that does not gross more than \$2,500 annually but is being used for a bona fide silvicultural purpose under the century farm program.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any expenditure impact to the Department of Forestry can be absorbed with existing resources. The Department of Forestry's easement division can absorb any minimal administrative costs associated with this bill.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Forestry; Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.