

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB252

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

2. Patron: Ruff

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

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 have a documented history of timber harvests or forest management activities. 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: Final. 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.

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.