

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1547

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: McQuinn

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Historical African American cemeteries and graves.

5. Summary: Directs the distribution of funds appropriated for caring for historical African American cemeteries and graves to qualifying nonprofit organizations that preserve historical African American cemeteries established before 1900. The funding formula is \$5.00, or the average actual cost of routine maintenance, multiplied by the number of graves, monuments, and markers of African Americans who lived at any time between 1800 and 1900 and are interred in the cemetery. The bill lists two cemeteries, East End Cemetery in Henrico County and Evergreen Cemetery in the City of Richmond, that are to receive any funds appropriated for a total of 6,975 gravesites. Additionally, subject to appropriation of funds for such purposes, the bill authorizes the distribution of a grant to such cemeteries to perform extraordinary maintenance, renovation, repair, or reconstruction of its historical cemeteries or graves.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No. HB 1500, as introduced, includes \$34,875, from the general fund, in FY 2018 for the routine maintenance of historical African American cemeteries and graves. See item 8, below.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018	\$34,875	0	GF
2019	\$34,875	0	GF
2020	\$34,875	0	GF
2021	\$34,875	0	GF
2022	\$34,875	0	GF
2023	\$34,875	0	GF

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill provides for payment to charitable organizations, associations, and trusts for the care and maintenance of grave sites in historical African-American cemeteries. Cemeteries identified in the legislation would be eligible to receive \$5.00 per year for each grave, monument, or marker in the cemetery listed in the bill, or the average actual cost of routine maintenance, whichever is greater. The bill provides that the Department

of Historic Resources is to determine the average actual cost of routine maintenance based on a biennial survey.

This bill specifically lists two cemeteries, with a combined total of 6,975 graves. Based on the number of graves and the \$5.00 minimal payment for each, the estimated fiscal impact to the general fund would be at least \$34,875 per year. The fiscal impact of providing funding equal to the average actual cost of routine maintenance is indeterminate.

In addition to establishing a program to provide for the routine maintenance and care of historical African-American cemeteries and graves, this bill establishes a grant program for grants to qualified organizations to perform extraordinary maintenance, renovation, repair or reconstruction of any of their respective historical African-American cemeteries and graves. These grants would be subject to appropriation of funds for this purpose by the General Assembly. The fiscal impact of this provision is indeterminate.

HB 1500, as introduced, includes \$34,875, from the general fund, in FY 2018 for the routine maintenance of historical African American cemeteries and graves.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Historic Resources.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.