

## State Corporation Commission 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB1492

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

**2. Patron:** Stuart

**3. Committee:** Commerce and Labor

**4. Title:** Water utilities; retail supply choice.

**5. Summary:** Water utilities; retail supply choice. Establishes a procedure under which investor-owned water utilities operating in Virginia may be required to prepare and implement plans to provide retail supply choice to all their customers. The governing body of a locality may petition the State Corporation Commission (SCC) to institute a proceeding to determine whether the rates charged by the water utility to its customers impose an undue hardship on the customers. Rates shall be deemed to impose an undue hardship on customers if the volumetric rates charged to the majority of the water utility's customers have increased by over 100 percent in the five calendar years preceding the filing of the petition. If a water utility fails or refuses to file an acceptable plan for implementation of retail supply choice, the governing body of the locality may proceed against the incumbent water utility by a writ of quo warranto. The bill also establishes a private right of action for individuals harmed by competitive water suppliers deceptive or unfair practices in providing or marketing water service. A competitive water supplier may be either a private entity licensed by the SCC or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth that is authorized to provide water utility service within the locality in which an incumbent water utility's certificated service territory is located.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** No fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission

**8. Fiscal Implications:** None on the State Corporation Commission

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** State Corporation Commission

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** None at this time

**11. Other Comments:** None