

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB698

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Wexton

3. **Committee:** Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. **Title:** Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund.

5. **Summary:** Authorizes the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to disburse moneys from the Fund in the form of grants to private entities that own dams in order to protect public safety and welfare. The grants can be used for the design, repair, and the safety modifications of dams identified in safety reports. The bill specifies homeowners' associations and planned unit developments among those private entities owning dams that are eligible to receive grants and loans from the Fund.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** According to the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Virginia Resources Authority (VRA), this bill is not anticipated to result in a state expenditure impact. Expanding the eligibility for grants from the Fund, to include the design and repair and safety modifications could impact demand.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Virginia Resources Authority, and localities.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

11. **Other Comments:** Homeowner associations and private owners already receive grants from this fund for dam break analysis, mapping dam break inundation zones, and other engineering requirements.

The introduced budget bill HB30, provides \$464,294 each year from the general fund to be transferred to this Fund. The Fund also consists of moneys from flood insurance premiums transferred from the State Corporation Commission. In addition to this program, this Fund is used for other obligations, such as the Commonwealth's flood protection plan, and the match for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant to provide flood protection studies/services to localities.