

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1622

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

2. Patron: Plum

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund; acquisition of interests in property; recordation fee.

5. Summary: Authorizes the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, in administering the Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund, to provide grants to persons conveying to the Foundation fee simple title or other rights to interests or privileges in property and to provide grants to localities acquiring such interests. Current law authorizes the Foundation to provide such grants for the acquisition of open-space and conservation easements. The bill also clarifies the imposition of the existing deed recordation fee, the revenue from which is distributed to the Foundation, and raises the fee amount from \$1 to \$3. The bill contains technical amendments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, to Item 374 of HB30/SB30.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2020	\$0	-	-
2021	\$1,900,000	-	NGF
2022	\$1,900,000	-	NGF
2023	\$1,900,000	-	NGF
2024	\$1,900,000	-	NGF
2025	\$1,900,000	-	NGF
2026	\$1,900,000	-	NGF

7b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2020	\$0	-
2021	\$1,900,000	NGF
2022	\$1,900,000	NGF
2023	\$1,900,000	NGF
2024	\$1,900,000	NGF
2025	\$1,900,000	NGF
2026	\$1,900,000	NGF

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill increases the fee for open-space preservation charged for every writing, document, and instrument admitted to record in those jurisdictions in which

open-space easements are held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation from one dollar to three dollars. The bill clarifies that the fee applies to any "writing, document, and instrument" admitted to record, replacing the term "deed." The Department of Taxation estimates that the increase in the fee charge will result in an additional \$1.9 million in revenue. Statute requires that this revenue be deposited to the Open-Space Lands Preservation Fund. The Department of Conservation and Recreation will require a nongeneral fund appropriation to distribute this additional revenue to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Conservation and Recreation; Department of Taxation; Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: HB1623 also increases this recordation fee.