

Department of Planning and Budget

2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB520

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

2. Patron: Bulova

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Department of Environmental Quality; tree planting as land cover type, best management practice; s

5. Summary: Directs the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to convene a stakeholder advisory group for the purpose of studying the planting or preservation of trees as a land cover type and as a stormwater best management practice (BMP). The bill provides that the stakeholder group shall be composed of development and construction industry representatives, environmental technical experts, the community associations industry, the linear infrastructure development industry, the Virginia Forestry Association, local Virginia stormwater management program authorities, local government representatives, and others; and that technical assistance shall be provided to DEQ by the Department of Forestry and the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The bill directs DEQ to report the findings of the stakeholder group by November 1, 2020, and to include a recommendation as to whether the planting or preservation of trees shall be deemed a creditable land cover type or BMP and, if so, how much credit shall be given for its optional use.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See #8.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any fiscal impact on DEQ as a result of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources. The Department of Forestry and the Department of Conservation and Recreation anticipate no fiscal impact from this bill.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Environmental Quality; Department of Forestry; Department of Conservation and Recreation; localities

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.