

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB991

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

2. Patron: Reid

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Firefighting equipment; weight limitation on interstate.

5. Summary: Requires firefighting equipment to comply with existing weight limitations for emergency vehicles on interstate highways. Current law exempts firefighting equipment from all size and weight limitations.

The bill also provides that the owner or operator of any emergency vehicle that would require a permit to be operated on the Interstate Highway System because the emergency vehicle exceeds the weight limits would be exempted from any fees charged by the Department of Motor Vehicles if the vehicle is registered to a federal, state, or local agency or a fire company

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: Current state statute exempts firefighting equipment from all vehicle size and weight limitations. However, the federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act establishes certain vehicle size and weight provisions which were codified in Virginia under Chapter 554, 2017 Acts of Assembly, and included compliant weight limit standards for emergency vehicles under § 46.2-1127.1., Code of Virginia. This bill would remove the vehicle weight exemption for firefighting equipment and require that firefighting equipment not exceed the FAST Act compliant weight limits for emergency vehicles.

Failure to comply with the weight limits imposed by the FAST Act could lead to a loss of 7 percent of certain federal funds each year of noncompliance. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) estimates, based on 2019 federal apportionments to Virginia, that non-compliance with FAST Act compliant weight limits could have resulted in a loss of \$77,000,000 in 2019.

It is anticipated that this legislation would not have a fiscal impact to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Transportation; Department of Motor Vehicles; localities

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.