

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB225

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

**2. Patron:** Stuart

**3. Committee:** Local Government

**4. Title:** Removal of dangerous roadside conditions; local option.

**5. Summary:** Authorizes any locality, by ordinance, to require the owner of any property located within five feet of any public right-of-way to remove any and all trees, tree limbs, shrubs, high grass, or other substance that might dangerously obstruct the line of sight of a driver, be involved in a collision with a vehicle, or interfere with the safe operation of a vehicle.

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

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This statement has been revised to reflect additional information from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).

While this legislation would allow localities, by ordinance, to require property owners within five feet of any public right-of-way to remove any and all dangerous roadside vegetation, it also allows the locality to authorize those property owners to maintain such dangerous roadside vegetation as it exists until the vegetation is destroyed or removed. The provisions of this bill would apply to the state highway system. To the extent that such vegetation is allowed to encroach on rights-of-way of the state highway system, VDOT could incur additional, indeterminate costs in removing or working around encroaching vegetation.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Transportation; local governments

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

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is similar to HB284.