

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB486

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

2. Patron: Favola

3. Committee: Passed the Senate.

4. Title: Study; VDACS; sources, scale, and prevention of food waste in the Commonwealth; report.

5. Summary: Directs the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to study, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality and stakeholders, the sources, scale, and prevention of food waste in the Commonwealth. In conducting its study, VDACS shall (i) assess the total annual statewide rate of preventable food waste received by landfills within the Commonwealth; (ii) identify the industry sectors within the Commonwealth that contribute to preventable food waste, and determine their rate of contribution to such waste; (iii) identify alternative uses of food that is wasted; and (iv) recommend policies to reduce the annual rate of preventable food waste in the Commonwealth with data-driven reduction targets and timelines, including food donation requirements for certain food waste from grocery stores and restaurants.

As passed by the Senate, the bill includes an enactment clause requiring an appropriation in the general appropriation act passed by the 2020 General Assembly to effectuate the bill.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 97 of HB/SB30.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2021	75,000	0.0	General
2022	75,000	0.0	General
2023	-	-	-
2024	-	-	-
2025	-	-	-
2026	-	-	-

8. Fiscal Implications: VDACS does not have the staff nor the necessary expertise to conduct the study as prescribed in the bill and anticipates needing to contract with a consulting firm to conduct the study and compile the results. The consultants used will have expertise in feasibility and research evaluation of food and agriculture production, food retail and distribution outlets, and food waste. Based on previous studies utilizing contractors, VDACS

anticipates that conducting the study and generating results will take three years to accomplish, with the contractor being required for two fiscal years at an estimated cost of \$75,000 per year. It is anticipated that any costs to the Department of Environmental Quality in its consultation on this study can be absorbed within current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Environmental Quality.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.