

Commission on Local Government

Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact

2022 General Assembly Session

Bill: HB1200

Special Session:

Patron: Ware

Date: 1/28/2022

In accordance with the provisions of §30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia, the staff of the Commission on Local Government offers the following analysis of the above-referenced legislation:

Bill Summary:

Landfill siting; proximity to private wells. Prohibits the siting of a new municipal solid waste landfill within one mile upgradient of any existing private well.

Executive Summary:

Localities have evaluated a negative fiscal impact ranging from \$0 - \$0.55 million; however, the maximum fiscal impact includes the costs of removal and ancillary expenses.

Most localities reported that the bill would produce no fiscal impact, as their locality has no landfills that the bill would apply to, currently or in the future. The localities that did report a negative fiscal impact indicated the costs would depend upon the costs to dispose of the waste in compliance with the statute, which would mean at a solid waste disposal facility at least a mile away from all schools and private wells.

Local Analysis:

Locality: Augusta County

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

This would increase the cost of such a property if one even exists. Although the County is large in square miles, the density may not allow for such a site to exist, unless it is on national forest, which is not an option. There is no way to assign a fiscal impact amount as the sale of land would be at fair market value. Landfills are regulated, so mitigation and monitoring practices offset currently fill the need to protect groundwater.

Locality: City of Alexandria..

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

Fiscal impact is not quantifiable at this time. That said, the City is highly unlikely to set aside any land for a landfill.

Locality: City of Danville

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

Will not impact the city - no locations for a future landfill available within City limits.

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**Locality:** City of Manassas

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

The City of Manassas does not operate a landfill. There is no fiscal impact to the City of Manassas.

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Locality: City of Roanoke

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

This legislation should not impact the RVRA's Smith Gap Landfill which should be in operation in excess of 100 years from now.

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**Locality:** City of Winchester

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

We would not have any room for a landfill and we have public water/sewer system in the City.

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Locality: County of Bland

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

Bland County currently does not operate any solid waste facilities.

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**Locality:** County of Fauquier

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

The amount of costs for such a measures cannot be quantified. For larger land size localities, this could be problematic. Other hydro-geological analysis, engineering/design consideration should be the basis for any environmental consideration should be included in analysis.

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Locality: Prince George County

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

This proposed legislation would not have a financial impact for Prince George County. If the County elected to construct a land fill, we could do so with these requirements at no added cost.

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**Locality:** Rappahannock County

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$1.00

It is not possible to calculate the cost impact as it would be related to the alternate cost to dispose of waste when a local landfill site is found to not be available (possibly shipping out of state). There are likely practically no sites available in the Commonwealth of Virginia that are at least one mile from any existing private well. The DEQ currently uses the Part A permit process to review proposed landfill sites and that subjective process at least provides some locations for landfills. Lastly, the entire point of new landfill design standards and groundwater monitoring program is to protect groundwater.

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Locality: Town of Blacksburg

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

No fiscal impact to the Town as we do not have any landfills within our boundaries. This could impact our regional landfill however there are no plans for expansion.

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**Locality:** Town of Kenbridge

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

We do not have a landfill within our town limits. But we do have a county landfill.

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Locality: Town of Leesburg

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

Loudoun County operates the landfill. This is not a Town function. If the County's costs go up they will pass those costs along to the Town in higher Tipping fees, but the Town has no way to estimate that impact.

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**Locality:** Town of Luray

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$250,000.00

Identification of existing wells that would be potentially impacted should be required. However, the likelihood of impact should be evaluated with the potential service to the community.

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Locality: Town of Scottsville

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

No fiscal impact to Scottsville or similarly situated small towns.

The bill could greatly limit the location of new landfills to only very remote areas.

But Scottsville does not receive any revenue from landfill operations, nor does the Town pay in to the costs of landfill operations.

This community has a city-county partnership authority operating some solid waste services, as well as a competitive market of private haulers. MSW from our area goes to commercial landfills elsewhere in the state. The bill has no direct fiscal impact to the Town.

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**Professional and Other Organization  
Analysis:**

**Organization:** Northern Neck PDC

No immediate fiscal impact to localities foreseen.

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