

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1135

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

2. Patron: Hodges

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources

4. Title: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; blue catfish work group; report.

5. Summary: Directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, in collaboration with certain stakeholders, to convene a work group to evaluate strategies to reduce the negative ecological effects of blue catfish and to increase the sales and marketing of blue catfish. The bill requires the work group to (i) review past and ongoing efforts to promote the creation of a market for blue catfish, (ii) identify and explore potential sectors for the blue catfish market, and (iii) identify any actions that the Commonwealth can take to promote and expand the market for blue catfish. The bill requires the Department to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Chairmen of the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and Finance and Appropriations and the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Appropriations by December 1, 2024.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and Virginia Institute of Marine Science anticipate that they can absorb the work required by this bill within existing resources. Estimates from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University were unavailable as of the time of publication.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None