

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB84

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

2. Patron: Simonds

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Mineral mining and exploration; public notification.

5. Summary: Requires an explorer conducting any mineral exploration activities, as those terms are defined in the bill, prior to the start of such activities, to (i) publish a notice in a newspaper having a general circulation in the locality where the exploration activity will occur at least once a week for two successive weeks, (ii) notify the governing body of such locality at least 15 days in advance of such activity, and (iii) notify all individual residences and properties within 500 yards of the property lines where the exploration activity will take place at least 15 days in advance of such activity. The bill requires such notices to include certain information related to the exploration activity.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 108 of HB30/SB30 as introduced

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see Item 8.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2025	\$201,600	2	GF
2026	\$201,600	2	GF
2027	\$201,600	2	GF
2028	\$201,600	2	GF
2029	\$201,600	2	GF
2030	\$201,600	2	GF

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Energy (DOE) conducts approximately 100 “mineral exploration activities” as defined by the bill annually. DOE does not currently have the capacity to provide notices as required by the bill. DOE estimates that an increase of two full time employees and \$201,600 annually from the general fund will be needed to comply with the requirements.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Energy, localities

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None