

## Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB581

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

**2. Patron:** Stuart

**3. Committee:** Finance and Appropriations

**4. Title:** Department of Environmental Quality; data; groundwater and surface water withdrawal permits.

**5. Summary:** Authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality to utilize and incorporate comprehensive groundwater, surface water, and aquifer data in its decision-making processes related to the issuance and renewal of groundwater withdrawal permits and surface water withdrawal permits. Such data may include information relating to water levels, flow rates, and water quality.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The bill allows the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to use groundwater, surface water, and aquifer data in permitting decisions. DEQ averages one annual permit in tidal areas. The cost of incorporating this data is estimated at \$100,000 per permit and would be passed through to an agency such as the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, or the Marine Resources Commission, if DEQ chose to use the allowance provided in the bill.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Environmental Quality; Virginia Institute of Marine Science; Marine Resources Commission.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.