

Department of Planning and Budget

2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1346

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:** Bulova

3. **Committee:** Counties, Cities and Towns

4. **Title:** Trees; replacement and conservation during development process, powers of local government.

5. **Summary:** Expands to all localities provisions that currently allow only certain localities to adopt an ordinance providing for the planting and replacement of trees during the development process and adds more flexibility for implementation and management of tree canopy banks, tree canopy credits, and tree canopy requirements. The bill changes and updates standards, reference documents, and published reference texts, expands options for localities to disburse funds to charitable organizations, and adds percentage specifications for ordinances related to cemeteries. In addition, the bill removes the prohibition of invalidating local ordinances adopted before July 1, 1990, the allowance of 10-year minimum requirements for pre-1990 ordinances, and the inability to invalidate an ordinance adopted that relates to the replacement of trees during the development process in certain localities. The bill allows ordinances that have been made pursuant to the law prior to the effective date of the changes in this bill to not be invalidated by the changes. The bill requires the Virginia State Forester to create standards for tree canopy percentages and to select members for the Stakeholder Advisory Group, established by the bill to provide recommendations on such standards. Some provisions of the bill become effective on July 1, 2022, and some have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2023.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No, see item 8.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, see item 8.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2024	\$50,000	-	GF

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Forestry (DOF) anticipates incurring a one-time general fund expenditure impact of \$50,000 to contract with an outside entity to develop the statewide tree canopy goals outlined in this bill. HB30/SB30, as Introduced, includes funding to expand the department's Urban and Community Forest program. With the additional funds included in the Introduced Budget Bill, DOF will have sufficient resources to develop and execute the plans required by this bill.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: SB 537, as introduced, also addresses the replacement and replacement of trees by a locality.