

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB657

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Stuart

**3. Committee:** Passed both houses

**4. Title:** Air Pollution Control Board and State Water Control Board; transfer of authority.

**5. Summary:** Limits the authority of the Air Pollution Control Board and the State Water Control Board (the Boards) to issuance of regulations and transfers the Boards' existing authority to issue permits and orders to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), with certain exceptions and considerations. Requires that at each regular meeting of the Boards, DEQ provide an overview and update regarding any controversial permits pending before DEQ that are relevant to the Boards, which shall have an immediate opportunity to respond. DEQ is further required to publish a summary of public comments received. After such publication, DEQ is required to publish public responses to the public comment summary and hold a public hearing to provide an opportunity for response. The bill further defines “controversial permit”, and requires that any changes to regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the bill include specific criteria for requesting and granting a public hearing on a permit action during a public comment period in those instances where a public hearing is not mandatory under state or federal law or regulation. Finally, the bill allows the Director of DEQ to convene a public hearing on a permit action at their discretion.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that any fiscal impact on the Department of Environmental Quality as a result of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Environmental Quality; State Water control Board; State Air Pollution Control Board; localities

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.