

**Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
2022 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Bill Number: HB1089

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

2. Patron: Tran

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Paraquat information.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Health to develop an information sheet regarding the public health risks of the pesticide known as paraquat and make the sheet available to download from its website. The bill requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer to require that employers with employees licensed to apply paraquat provide a copy of the information sheet to each licensee, keep records concerning licensees, and update and annually report data regarding the use of paraquat to the Department of Health.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 105 of HB30/SB30, as introduced.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2023	\$136,600	1.0	Nongeneral Fund
2024	\$85,600	1.0	Nongeneral Fund
2025	\$85,600	1.0	Nongeneral Fund
2026	\$85,600	1.0	Nongeneral Fund
2027	\$85,600	1.0	Nongeneral Fund
2028	\$85,600	1.0	Nongeneral Fund

8. Fiscal Implications: This fiscal impact statement is preliminary and will be updated to reflect whether or not an FTE is required in addition to funding the position. The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) anticipates that this bill will result in a nongeneral fund expenditure on the impact. According to VDACS, the collection of pesticide use data and annual reporting will require the development of an online portal for pesticide applicators to report their usage of paraquat, including location of use, frequency of use, and volume of application. The portal would also need to include analytical tools for VDACS to provide the required data reporting to the Department of Health. The cost of this system is estimated to be \$60,000 for initial setup in FY2023 and approximately \$9,000 each subsequent fiscal year for system maintenance. In addition to the development costs, VDACS anticipates that the agency will need to hire an additional position to manage the annual collection of pesticide use data and reporting to the Department of Health at a cost of \$76,600; an

additional may be necessary to support the position. VDACS anticipates that if the department is required to verify the information provided by the pesticide business or applicator or required to enforce the provisions of the bill, then they may require additional staff resources. VDACS also anticipates that in order to execute the provisions of this bill, the department will need to engage in extensive outreach and education regarding the reporting requirements of pesticide applicators, employer records of each employee who is certified to apply paraquat, and a record of when the licensed applicator received a copy of the information sheet.

As VDACS's pesticide program is a nongeneral fund program, the expenditures associated with collecting the paraquat information will be considered the next time a budget analysis is conducted and fees are adjusted.

The Department of Health anticipates that this bill will not have an impact on the agency.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Department of Health

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.