State Corporation Commission 2025 General Assembly Session State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number:HB1821Patron:ReidBill Title:Electric utilities; accelerated renewable energy buyers; zero-carbon electricity; energy storage resources.

Bill Summary: Permits an accelerated renewable energy buyer or group of accelerated renewable energy buyers to contract to (i) obtain bundled capacity, energy, and renewable energy certificates from zero-carbon electricity generation resources under certain conditions and (ii) offset all or a portion of their capacity needs through the procurement of energy storage resources under certain conditions.

Budget Amendment Necessary:NoItems Impacted:NoneExplanation:Not applicable

Fiscal Summary: The fiscal impact to the State Corporation Commission associated with this bill is indeterminate.

Fiscal Analysis: The proposed legislation could increase the number of accelerated renewable energy buyer (ARB) certification requests received by the Commission annually. It would also require modifications to the Commission's Regulations Governing Accelerated Renewable Energy Buyers, 20 VAC5-319-10 et seq. ("ARB Regulations"), which may result in the adoption of new processes and systems necessary to track and account for the addition of the zero-carbon electricity provided by the legislation. The potential fiscal impacts to the Commission are indeterminate at this time but could be potentially significant. Any fiscal impact to the Commission, including the potential for additional Staff and/or the potential need for additional technological resources, would depend on the number of additional ARB certification requests received and the determinations made by the Commission in its proceeding to modify the ARB Regulations.

The SCC costs to implement the requirements in this bill will impact its Public Utility Fund (02080). The current rate cap authorization (58.1-2900) as approved by the General Assembly (GA) is not sufficient to generate the revenue needed for the Fund to cover the costs of this bill's requirements. However, bills HB2663 and SB1336 have been introduced in the 2025 GA session to adjust electric consumption rate caps to fund SCC existing expenses and potential new expenses from electric utility SCC oversight legislation passed during the 2025 GA Session. The costs associated with HB1821 can be absorbed from the revenue that would result from the passage of HB2663/SB1336.

Other: None