Department of Planning and Budget 2025 General Assembly Session State Fiscal Impact Statement

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Bill Number: SB1242 **Patron:** Durant

Bill Title: Watershed general permits for nutrients; priority projects; compliance schedule;

emergency.

Bill Summary: Amends the compliance schedule for three priority projects for additional nitrogen and phosphorus removal under the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty (ENRC) Program: the Fredericksburg Wastewater Treatment Facility, the Spotsylvania County-FMC Wastewater Treatment Facility, and the Spotsylvania County-Massaponax Wastewater Treatment Facility. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No. Items Impacted: N/A

Explanation: This bill involves the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ); however, no budget

action is required. See Fiscal Analysis section, below.

Fiscal Summary: It is anticipated that any costs DEQ may incur in administering the program changes can be absorbed within existing resources; however, DEQ cannot determine the impact of this bill on projected ENRC Program expenditures.

Fiscal Analysis: This impact statement is preliminary. It is anticipated that DEQ can absorb any costs associated with the implementation of this bill. The agency cannot at this time determine the impact of this bill on projected ENRC Program expenditures for the biennium.

Chapter 2, 2024 Acts of Assembly, Special Session I authorizes \$400.00 million in VPBA bonds over the biennium for ENRC. HB1600/SB800, as introduced, changes the source of this funding to the general fund, and includes an additional deposit of \$17.39 million to support the ENRC Program from the mandatory deposit requirements associated with the fiscal year 2024 excess general fund revenue collections and discretionary year-end general fund balances.

Other: None.