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

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Bill Number: HB 1791 ER **Patron:** Sullivan Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund created.

Bill Summary: Creates the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund to assist private developers with non-utility costs associated with the installation of electric vehicle charging stations (i) in certain localities, (ii) on eligible public land, as defined in the bill, or (iii) within one mile of the boundary of eligible public land. The bill provides that a private developer may apply for a grant in an amount equal to 70 percent of the private developer's non-utility costs for the installation of such public electric vehicle charging stations. The Department of Energy shall establish guidelines for the administration of the Program, including guidelines related to the application for and award of grants. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2030.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes Items Impacted: 109

Explanation: This bill would create expenses for the Department of Energy (Energy) that cannot be

absorbed with current appropriations.

Fiscal Summary: It is anticipated Energy will require \$75,000 of general fund support in addition to the amount intended to capitalize the Fund. Conference amendments to HB1600 include \$1.5 million to capitalize the Fund and establish the program. The funding is to be used solely for grants.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>
Energy	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000

Fiscal Analysis: The bill establishes the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program, which will be supported by the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Fund. The program is designed to assist private developers with non-utility costs associated with the installation of public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations located in distressed localities, on eligible public lands, or within one mile of eligible public lands.

According to Energy, the workload to administer the fund and implement the program is equivalent to 0.5 FTEs, which will result in an estimated annual expense of \$75,000. According to the agency, this role would encompass tasks such as developing and enforcing guidelines, reviewing grant applications, monitoring compliance with program requirements, overseeing fund allocation, and ensuring that all funded projects meet the established standards for installation, uptime, and maintenance. Because the bill stipulates that moneys in the Fund can be used solely for the provision of grants, additional funding for this position is needed.

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HB 1600, as passed by the House and Senate, includes \$1.5 million to capitalize the fund but does not include support for administrative costs.

Other: None.