Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 1/21/2026 11:43 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB88 **Patron:** Laufer
Bill Title: Highway rights-of-way; invasive species.

Bill Summary: Requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board) to establish and implement a policy for identifying and removing or controlling any invasive plant on the list of invasive plants created by the Department of Conservation and Recreation on any state highway right-of-way and prohibits the Commonwealth Transportation Board and Commissioner of Highways from planting or causing or suffering to be planted any such invasive plant on the right-of-way of any state highway. Current law prohibits the planting of three listed plants if the governing body of the locality declares such weeds or plants to be injurious and requires the Board to remove such plants.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** N/A
Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: The state fiscal impact to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is indeterminate. The prevalence of invasive plans along state highway right-of-way is unknown. The requirements of the bill are expected to increase costs to VDOT for any additional efforts to identify and address such plants in the manner described in the bill than would be taken under current policies.

Fiscal Analysis: None.

Other: None.