

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB1350

Patron: Kent

Bill Title: Department of Environmental Quality; special orders; Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program; civil penalties.

Bill Summary: Increases the maximum civil penalty amount that the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality may assess for any special order to a person to comply with certain related laws, regulations, permits, and certifications from \$10,000 to \$32,500. The bill also increases from \$10,000 to \$32,500 the maximum civil penalty amount that the Department or a locality can assess related to violations of a Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program.

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 this bill may have an indeterminate nongeneral fund revenue impact, and that any costs DEQ may incur can be absorbed within existing resources.

Fiscal Analysis: This impact statement is preliminary. It is anticipated that the Department of Environmental Quality can absorb any costs associated with the implementation of this bill.

The bill raises the statutory ceiling on total civil penalties that may be imposed for specified series of erosion and sediment control violations. This change increases the maximum financial exposure per enforcement case but does not mandate higher penalties in any individual case. To the extent that enforcement actions reach the prior statutory cap, DEQ and the State Water Control Board may assess and collect higher total penalties than under current law. Civil penalties impacted by the bill are deposited into the Virginia Stormwater Management Fund (Fund 09024).

Other: None.