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

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Bill Number: SB645 **Patron:** Surovell
Bill Title: Air Pollution Control Board regulations; exemptions for waste-to-energy facilities; small renewable energy projects; anaerobic digestion technology.

Bill Summary: Exempts from certain regulations promulgated by the Air Pollution Control Board any waste-to-energy facility, as defined in the bill, and requires the Board, on a decennial basis beginning July 1, 2030, to review the effects of the provisions of the bill on certain carbon dioxide emission reduction goals set forth in state law. The bill also provides that for the purposes of a permit by rule for a small renewable energy project under existing law, a small renewable energy project includes an electrical generation facility with a rated capacity not exceeding 100 megawatts that generates electricity from biomass, energy from waste, or municipal solid waste and its dedicated associated interconnection facilities, provided that such facility is capable of processing the majority of its organic waste, including food waste and municipal sludge, with anaerobic digestion technology by January 1, 2030.

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 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 the changes in the bill. An indeterminate reduction in workload resulting from the exemption of qualifying waste-to-energy facilities from certain Air Pollution Control Board regulations may partially offset staff time required to conduct the required emissions and technology assessment, prepare the report due by July 1, 2028, and support the decennial review of carbon dioxide reduction impacts beginning July 1, 2030.

Other: None.