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

PUBLISHED: 3/9/2026 12:11 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB1266S1 **Patron:** Tran
Bill Title: Environmental permits; cumulative impact of certain activities on environmental justice communities; public hearing and notice requirements.

Bill Summary: Requires the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to publish an updated version of its Environmental Justice in the Permitting Process Guidance Memo for public comment. The updated guidance must consider how to assess cumulative impacts of the types of permits addressed in the memo and outreach strategies to engage communities impacted. The bill requires DEQ to include a public town hall in the comment process no later than July 31, 2026, to respond to public comments by October 31, 2026, and to issue the final updated guidance memo no later than December 31, 2026.

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 this bill.

Other: None.