



**2014 Session Budget Overview  
Amendments to FY 2012-14 Budget  
Proposed FY 2014-2016 Budget  
Secretariat of Agriculture and Forestry  
Secretariat of Natural Resources**

**House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Commerce,  
Technology and Natural Resources**



# AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

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# HB 30: Secretariat Agriculture and Forestry

- Secretariat Includes a net increase of \$4.7 million GF in the first year and \$5.4 million GF in the second year, representing increases of 10.1% and 11.4% respectively
  - Numerous amendments providing small incremental increases to variety of programs

## VDACS

- Includes an additional \$250,000 GF for grants from the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund to support localities in attracting and expanding agricultural and forestry facilities
- Provides an additional \$262,409 the first year and \$270,047 the second year and 3 FTE positions to increase the number of food safety inspectors
- Proposes \$267,768 the first year and \$220,038 the second year and 3 FTE positions to increase the frequency of inspection of weights and measures devices, continuing an on-going effort to reduce the time between inspections
- Provides \$531,325 GF the first year and \$379,736 the second year and one FTE position for computer server upgrades and procurement of disaster recovery services

# HB 30: Secretariat Agriculture and Forestry

## VDACS (continued)

- Provides \$203,774 GF the second year to support Virginia's livestock and poultry industries by obtaining national accreditation of the agency's animal health laboratories
- Proposes an increase of \$1.2 million NGF each year and 15 FTE positions to grade and inspect Virginia's agricultural exports
  - Amounts are supported by fees paid by producers. The fees are not increasing, but the appropriation reflects an increase in revenues generated as exports have grown
  - A companion amendment in Central Appropriations generates savings of \$132,000 GF each year by removing GF support for this function
- Central Appropriations reflects a reduction of \$132,000 GF each year and 2 FTE positions from elimination of unfilled positions at Charitable Gaming pursuant to the agency's reduction plan

# HB 30: Secretariat Agriculture and Forestry

## Forestry

- Proposes to fully fund the state's matching share of the Reforestation of Timberlands program by the end of the biennium, providing an additional \$485,782 GF the first year and \$999,500 the second year
- Provides \$500,000 each year to purchase \$4.4 million of additional fire protection equipment through the MELP program
  - A companion amendment in Capital Outlay maintenance reserve provides funding to build 24 garages to store the firefighting equipment

# NATURAL RESOURCES

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# Natural Resources

## WQIF Deposit

- Proposes \$31.5 million GF in 2015 from the year-end general fund surplus to the WQIF to address nonpoint source pollution, including:
  - \$18.2 million for DCR to implement Ag BMPs
  - \$1.6 million for SWCD technical assistance
  - \$1.2 million for Virginia's federal CREP match, forestry operation water quality grants, and to develop nutrient management planning for golf courses
  - \$6.6 million for DEQ's stormwater and other nonpoint source water quality projects
- Allocates \$4.0 million for WQIF Reserve Fund as required by budget language

## DEQ

- Includes \$401,036 GF in FY 2015 and \$462,494 GF in FY 2016 to increase the management of groundwater resources in the Coastal Plain

# Natural Resources

## DCR Proposals

- \$1.0 million GF each year for VLCF
- \$225,000 GF and \$150,000 NGF each year to hire 4 engineers to support implementing structural SWCD projects (i.e., fencing, animal waste)
  - Engineering support previously provided by Natural Resources Conservation Service; NRCS has indicated it can no longer do so
- Includes \$75,000 in FY 2014 to employ a grants management expert or team to conduct an audit and make recommendations about how to improve compiling and maintaining federal fund accounting (HB 29)
  - Federal government has requested repayment of \$750,000 in grants

## Marine Resources Proposals

- Provides \$255,200 GF each year to fill 4 vacant marine police positions to address poaching in Virginia's oyster sanctuaries
- Saves \$73,000 GF in FY 2015 and \$90,000 GF in FY 2016 based on actual needs for Tangier Island Seawall Project
  - Funding is provided for the project, but only what is actually needed



# Natural Resources

## DGIF Proposals

- Increases general fund transfers to Game Protection Fund by \$4.6 million each year (similar action taken in HB 29)
  - \$2.4 million each year reflects additional HB 38 sales of hunting and fishing gear
  - \$2.2 million each year reflects additional watercraft sales and use taxes
- Adds \$3.2 million each year to reflect federal revenue collections
- Adds \$1.3 million NGF each year to support legislatively authorized salary increases
- Eliminates \$1.7 million NGF each year for new Headquarters soft costs to reflect cancellation of construction contract due to concerns about contractor

## DHR Proposals

- Adds \$113,734 GF each year to continue the Historic Highway Marker program
  - Program had previously been supported by federal highway funding; this source is no longer available to the agency