2022 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB30 (Chapter 2)

Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Item 373	First Year - FY2023	Second Year - FY2024
Administrative and Support Services (79900)	**$783,240**	**$783,240**
General Management and Direction (79901)	$783,240	$783,240
Fund Sources:		
General	$669,542	$669,542
Federal Trust	$113,698	$113,698

Authority: Title 2.2, Chapter 2, Article 7; and § 2.2-201, Code of Virginia.

A. The Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources shall report to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations, and Agriculture, Conservation, and Natural Resources, and the House Committees on Appropriations and Conservation and Natural Resources, by November 4 of each year on implementation of the Chesapeake Bay nutrient reduction strategies. The report shall include and address the progress and costs of point source and nonpoint source pollution strategies. The report shall include, but not be limited to, information on levels of dissolved oxygen, acres of submerged aquatic vegetation, computer modeling, variety and numbers of living resources, and other relevant measures for the General Assembly to evaluate the progress and effectiveness of the tributary strategies. In addition, the Secretary shall include information on the status of all of Virginia's commitments to the Chesapeake Bay Agreements.

B. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a reserve be created within the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund to support the purposes delineated within the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Act of 1997 (WQIA 1997) when year-end general fund surpluses are unavailable. Consequently, 15 percent of any amounts appropriated to the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund due to annual general fund revenue collections in excess of the official estimates contained in the general appropriation act shall be withheld from appropriation, unless otherwise specified. When annual general fund revenue collections do not exceed the official revenue estimates contained in the general appropriation act, the reserve fund may be used for WQIA 1997 purposes as directed by the General Assembly within the general appropriation act.

C. The Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, with the assistance of the Directors of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Wildlife Resources, and the Department of Historic Resources, shall provide an annual report to the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees of all projects undertaken pursuant to a settlement or mitigation agreement upon which the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources is an authorized signatory on behalf of the Governor by November 15 each year until all terms of the settlement or mitigation agreement are satisfied. In addition, whenever a settlement or mitigation agreement is finalized, the Secretary shall provide a copy of, and explanation of, the terms of such settlement to the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees within 15 days.