

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6496

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN SOIL-RELATED INITIATIVES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Potential Cost	Approximately 200,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Section 1 allows the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to establish a pilot program using as fill reclaimed materials containing minor amounts of solid waste content. This has no fiscal impact as DEEP currently has expertise to implement the pilot program.

Sections 2 - 5 allows DEEP to perform research on soil health and requires updated regulations on soil and water conservation districts and boards to include soil health. This may result in one-time cost to DEEP of approximately \$200,000 for outside consultants to develop soil health standards in conjunction with other state agencies and external organizations on soil health.

Lastly, **Section 6** requires DEEP to submit a report, by November 1, 2021, to the Environment Committee on the approval process for maintenance marine dredging projects for the last four years. This has no fiscal impact since DEEP has the expertise to prepare the report.

The Out Years

There is no annualized ongoing fiscal impact since the potential cost identified above is estimated to occur only in FY 22.