## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND OFFICE OF BUDGET

Bill NO. <u>68-19</u>

**DATE: August 29, 2019** 

## FISCAL NOTE

BILL:

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING: CONCERNING: SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT - FOREST CONSERVATION - FEES AND SECURITY

## **SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION**

The purposes of the bill are to establish the applicability of the Forest Conservation Program; to establish standards for granting modifications to forest conservation requirements; to revise the exceptions to the forest conservation requirements for certain projects; to establish "special priority retention areas" to conform the County's Forest Conservation Program to State law; to revise the requirements for forest stand delineations and forest conservation plans to conform to State law requirements; to revise the forest conservation thresholds; and to revise the forest conservation fee-in-lieu payments.

## FISCAL IMPACT

Reforestation Fund revenues can only be used for forest conservation initiatives in the County. As the fee-in-lieu of planting provides funding for the Reforestation Fund, the changing of the fee-in-lieu structure will likely result in a change in the Reforestation Fund revenues. As this revenue source is dependent upon developer behavior and development patterns of these lands, we cannot reasonably estimate the fiscal impact to the Reforestation Fund. Also, due to the complexity of factors affecting developer behavior and development cycles, the impact on the County General Fund is indeterminate.

Jim Beauchamp Budget Officer

Date

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