

Department of General Services 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB227

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Barker

3. Committee: General Laws and Technology

4. Title: Irrigation systems; state-owned buildings and private property.

5. Summary/Purpose: Requires the Division of Engineering and Buildings, in every state-owned building or facility designed, constructed, or substantially altered after July 1, 2010, that includes as part of such design, construction, or alteration the installation of an outdoor automatic sprinkler or irrigation system, to ensure that such system shall have furnished and installed technology that inhibits or interrupts operation of the landscape irrigation system during periods of sufficient moisture or rainfall. The technology shall be adjustable either by the end user or the professional practitioner of landscape irrigation services. The bill also provides that every outdoor automatic sprinkler or irrigation system installed after July 1, 2010, by a landscape irrigation contractor shall be equipped with technology that inhibits or interrupts operation of the landscape irrigation system during periods of sufficient moisture or rainfall. The technology shall be adjustable either by the end user or the professional practitioner of landscape irrigation services. The bill provides that this latter provision shall not apply to systems operating on golf courses or agricultural lands.

6. Fiscal impact estimates are indeterminate.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications:

Technology upgrades required by this legislation have a minimal cost and will provide long term direct savings. Savings for the installation of control devices usually can be realized in one to four years depending upon user settings, wind, sunlight, and temperature. Many planned state capital projects include such systems already.

Automatic irrigation control systems produce savings over manual systems in water, sewer, and turf operation and maintenance. Water expenses can be reduced by up to twenty-five percent. Data for irrigation water usage in state owned buildings and other private buildings is not readily available, however.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of General Services; state agencies with state owned buildings

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: None

Date: 01/18/2010

cc: Secretary of Administration