

Department of Planning and Budget 2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB1267

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron Newman

3. Committee Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title Health; Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth.

5. Summary/Purpose:

This amendment bill creates a "Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth" to be available at the request of the parents of the stillborn child. "Stillbirth" is defined as an unintended, intrauterine death that occurs after the 20th week of pregnancy to birth. The "stillborn infant" is born without any attempt at respiration, including a beating umbilical cord. Currently, the Commonwealth issues only a birth certificate or death certificate that is reported to the Registrar as a fetal death report. A number of states have created this form of certificate of birth as a part of the "Missing Angel Act." The bill directs the Board of Health to prescribe a reasonable fee to cover the administrative cost and preparation of the certificate.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates as of: Preliminary

6a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2002-03			
2003-04	\$30,000	0.00	General Fund or Special Funds
2004-05	\$1,000	0.00	Special Funds

6b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2002-03			
2003-04	\$500	0.00	Special Funds
2004-05	\$1,000	0.00	Special Funds

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, for one -time costs in FY2004. The Vital Records program does not have enough capacity in its annual appropriation to absorb the one -time costs associated with this bill. The one -time appropriation of general fund dollars or special fund revenue in the Vital Records Automation Fund in Item 309 (Vital Records and Health Statistics - Program 40400) would be necessary.

8. Fiscal implications:

The Virginia Department of Health's Office of Vital Records would incur one-time costs of between \$25,000 and \$35,000 in order to meet the bill's provisions. These one-time costs include the revision of the fetal death certificate to include elective fields for both the stillborn fetus' name and the father. The form currently only includes the mother's name. The agency's vital records database would also have to be modified in order to facilitate such requests, including the bill's provisions concerning delayed certificate requests.

The charge for fetal death certificates could then be established at the same rate as other certificates to address the direct costs associated with individual requests.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Virginia Department of Health

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 02/05/03/laf

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources