

## Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB 672

**House of Origin** ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

**Second House** ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron** Edwards, J.

**3. Committee** Education and Health

**4. Title** Board of Health regulations: Guidelines for staffing nursing homes

**5. Summary/Purpose:**

SB 672 would require the Board of Health, in its licensure regulations, to establish staffing guidelines for nursing homes and certified nursing facilities to ensure the delivery of quality care that must:

- (i) Take into consideration the number of beds in the facility and average occupancy rates across the Commonwealth
- (ii) Recommend the level of licensure or certification for appropriate staffing of the various nursing positions in nursing homes vis-à-vis the scope of practice of registered professional nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nurse aides
- (iii) Recommend staffing ratio goals for day shifts, night shifts, and weekend shifts according to the individual needs of residents that provide flexibility vis-à-vis the constantly changing characteristics of residents in nursing facilities and the level of care required for residents with moderate and extensive nursing care requirements and lower or higher acuity levels; and
- (iv) Examine staffing needs of nursing homes and ways to facilitate the training and recruitment of adequate staff

**6. No Fiscal Impact**

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No

**8. Fiscal implications:**

The regulatory activities required by SB 672 cost approximately \$1,500, but VDH projects that the cost can be absorbed in their normal workload, as long as there are not a large number of other such impacts such that additional staffing is required.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:**

Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No

**11. Other comments:** The act of establishing guidelines does not have a direct, predictable impact on facility costs. However, if the guidelines were made mandatory, it is possible that they would have a significant impact on Medicaid expenditures. (For example, see the Fiscal Impact Statement for HB 789).

**Date:** 1/27/04 / RMC

**Document:** G:\LEGIS\2004 Fises\Fises By DPB\SB672.Doc

c: Secretary of Health and Human Resources