

Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB251-ER

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

2. Patron O'Bannon

3. Committee Passed Both Houses

4. Title **Adult Fatality Review Teams; report; penalties**

5. Summary/Purpose: Establishes the Adult Fatality Review Team to review suspicious deaths of any incapacitated adult aged 18 or older and any adult aged 60 or older who was the subject of an adult protective services investigation, whose death was due to abuse or neglect or acts that suggest abuse or neglect, or whose death came under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner pursuant to § 32.1-283. The bill sets forth duties, membership, confidentiality, reporting, and other requirements for the team. The bill also creates a Freedom of Information Act exemption for information and records acquired during a review of any death conducted by a family violence fatality review team or during a review of any adult death conducted by the adult fatality review team to the extent made confidential by state law.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: Final. See Item #8.

Expenditure Impact:

Fiscal Year	Dollars		Positions
	GF	NGF	
2008	-	-	0.0
2009	\$114,379	-	1.0
2010	\$111,379	-	1.0
2011	\$111,379	-	1.0
2012	\$111,379	-	1.0
2013	\$111,379	-	1.0

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, Item 287- Medical Examiner and Anatomical Services (40302).

8. Fiscal implications: According to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), the fiscal impact of this bill would require an additional \$114,379 in GF appropriation in FY 2009, and ongoing expense of \$111,379. The estimate is based on the following expenditures:

On-going Expenses

- \$76,800 salary and benefits for one (1.0) FTE Adult Fatality Review Team Coordinator. This person will be responsible for collection, interpretation, and summarization of

medical records and other records related to these death cases to prepare them for review by the Team. The ideal candidate is a person with a degree and considerable experience in geriatric nursing.

- \$14,200 to cover the costs associated with producing an annual report, office supplies, copying, and postage. Also, expense for Team meetings (six a year) includes food, travel, and parking reimbursement.
- \$1,379 to cover VITA yearly computer charges.
- \$19,000 to cover a part-time wage or contractual person to assist with the administration of the Team, which includes setting up the meetings, processing paperwork, etc.

One-time Expenses

- \$3,000 for office furniture, computer, and printer

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

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: The concerns raised are similar to concerns raised when the Virginia Department of Health established the State Child Fatality Review Team. However, since its inception, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has successfully found NGF sources to cover the costs of this team.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner committed to the HAC that OCME will seek NGF sources of funding to cover the expenses of the Adult Fatality Review Team. This will include seeking grants and private sources of funding through the Department of Justice, Administration on Aging, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Association of Elder Abuse, and other private, nonprofit organizations. The Elder Justice Act is making its way through the U.S. Congress and Senate and may attach funding for elder abuse prevention efforts that could support a team such as this. The Office of Chief Medical Examiner currently maintains the Child Fatality Review Team and the Maternal Mortality Review Team through grant funding.

Date: 3/5/08 lrj

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources