

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB1326

|                 |           |              |           |            |           |           |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| House of Origin | <u>X</u>  | Introduced   | <u>  </u> | Substitute | <u>  </u> | Engrossed |
| Second House    | <u>  </u> | In Committee | <u>  </u> | Substitute | <u>  </u> | Enrolled  |

**2. Patron:** Merricks

**3. Committee:** Commerce and Labor

**4. Title:** Workers' compensation; medical services.

**5. Summary:** Provides that a health care provider rendering medical services outside Virginia to an injured worker whose claim and injuries have been accepted as compensable under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act shall be reimbursed for medical treatment in an amount equal to the workers' compensation fee schedule, if any, adopted by that state. The measure also directs the Workers' Compensation Commission to appoint a task force to develop recommendations for regulations authorizing reductions or discounts for multiple surgical procedures performed during a single operative session, establishing an employer's limits of pecuniary liability for an assistant-at-surgery, establishing alternative methods to determine fee disputes, and related matters. The commission shall develop regulations addressing these issues by June 1, 2011. The measure will take effect upon its passage pursuant to an emergency clause.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The administrative and fiscal impact on the Workers' Compensation Commission is unclear. The bill does not identify if the task force will be compensated or reimbursed for any necessary expenses by the commission.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Workers' Compensation Commission

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None

**Date:** 2/12/2010 ckb

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