

Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1847ER

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Stolle

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Health workforce activities; annual report

5. Summary: Repeals the requirement for the Commissioner of Health to submit an annual report on health workforce activities to the Governor and the General Assembly.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: None.

8. Fiscal Implications: No.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:
Virginia Department of Health

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The 2010 General Assembly enacted Section 32.1-122.7:1, Code of Virginia, which created the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority. Section 32.1-122.7, Code of Virginia, states that the mission of the Authority is to facilitate the development of a statewide health professions pipeline that identifies, educates, recruits, and retains a diverse, appropriately geographically distributed and culturally competent quality workforce. The Authority is required to report biennially on the activities and recommendations of the Authority to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, the State Board of Health, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Joint Commission on Health Care, the Governor, and the General Assembly. The report submitted by the Authority includes the number and type of providers who have been recruited to care for Virginia's underserved populations and practice in underserved areas and health professional shortage areas in Virginia as a result of Department's activities and the retention rate of providers who have located in underserved areas and health professional shortage areas as a result of Department activities.

Section 32.1-122.22, Code of Virginia, also requires the Commissioner of Health to submit

an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding the Department's activities in recruiting and retaining health care providers for underserved populations and areas and health professional shortage areas throughout the Commonwealth. However, the biennial report submitted by the Authority contains information not included in the Commissioner of Health's annual report, such as the retention of providers who have worked in the underserved areas and health professional shortage areas as a result of the Department's activities and for new programs, activities and strategies for increasing the number of providers in Virginia's underserved areas and health professional shortage areas and serving Virginia's underserved populations.

The Department believes that the Authority's report is broader in scope than the agency's annual report. The proposed legislation would remove the requirement for the Commissioner of Health to submit an annual report on health workforce activities to the Governor and the General Assembly. By eliminating this redundant reporting requirement, the Department believes they will be able to use its limited staff resources more effectively and efficiently.

Date: 2/17/2011

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