

Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB796-ER

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: Rush

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: State Board of Health; guidelines for cleanup of residential property used as clandestine drug lab

5. Summary: Provides for the State Board of Health to establish guidelines for the cleanup of residential property formerly used as a clandestine methamphetamine laboratory.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See item #8.

8. Fiscal Implications: In August 2005, the Virginia State Police developed a best practice protocol for emergency and first responders responding to methamphetamine laboratories with instructions that included notifying the local health departments of resources available to offer as guidance to affected property owners. In 2011, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration discontinued funding to states for methamphetamine clean-up that had been provided under the *Community Oriented Policing Services* program. Without federal funding to continue clean-ups and no standard for decontamination remediation established in Virginia, this bill would seek to establish state guidelines to address this issue.

Currently, some local health departments maintain a list of private companies that can provide clean-up, while others refer questions to the Division of Environmental Epidemiology's State Toxicologist who handles these on a case by case basis and still others contact the Office of Environmental Health. Creating a unified set of clean-up guidelines will eliminate the potential for response gaps that may occur. Staff from the Division of Environmental Epidemiology has the knowledge and expertise to provide input into the development of guidelines which would be preferable to the current situation.

This legislation will require staff from the Office of Epidemiology in the Division of Environmental Epidemiology, as well as the Office of Environmental Health, to provide input to the Board of Health for the development of guidelines to address clandestine methamphetamine clean-up. The guidelines would be developed using existing staff. The total cost for creating these guidelines can be absorbed within the department's existing budget.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 3/2/2012

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c: Secretary of Health and Human Resources