

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB945

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

2. **Patron:** Puller

3. **Committee:** Commerce and Labor

4. **Title:** Convene work group to develop recommendations regarding patient assistance programs for specialty drug needs

5. **Summary:** Requires the Virginia Department of Health shall convene a work group consisting of representatives of interested entities and such other persons. The work group shall develop, and provide to the Department, recommendations regarding (i) the availability and establishment of patient assistance programs for specialty drug needs in the Commonwealth; (ii) current resources available, from both general fund and nongeneral fund sources, for such patient assistance programs and the level of resources needed to maximize existing programs; (iii) the implications of limiting the authority of health insurers to move a drug to a higher cost-sharing tier or otherwise modify prescription drug coverage without notifying the insureds and requiring that modifications be effective on a uniform basis; and (iv) opportunities to expand relationships between the Commonwealth and its pharmaceutical, insurance, pharmacy benefit manager, specialty pharmacy, and patient advocacy partners in order to develop a robust specialty-tier safety net.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item #8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The expenditure impact of this bill is expected to be minimal and is based on a 10 member work group, convening four times over a six month period for 10 hours per week. According to the Virginia Department of Health, staff time is needed to coordinate the work group, and there would also be a need to hire an outside wage or contractor at a cost of \$9,100 since expertise would extend outside the agency. Personnel expenses, travel, supplies, and other related charges are included in the estimate (\$5,900), for a total one-time cost of \$15,000 in FY 2014. The agency will absorb the costs associated with this legislation.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar to HB 2030-H1

Date: 2/1/2013

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c: Secretary of Health and Human Resources