

Department of Planning and Budget

2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 1409

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

2. Patron: Deeds

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Community services boards; emergency services; access to experts.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to enter into agreements with health care providers experienced in the provision of emergency services for the provision of technical assistance and guidance to employees and designees of community services boards and behavioral health authorities who conduct evaluations for emergency custody and temporary detention and who provide other emergency services.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 307

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See 8 below.

8. Fiscal Implications: The technical assistance and guidance required in this bill will result in additional costs to the department. The exact fiscal impact will depend upon the scope and frequency of the services provided. For example, the bill requires the department to ensure that technical assistance and guidance be provided by health care providers experienced in the provision of emergency services are available to employees and designees of community services boards and behavioral health authorities at all times. This requirement could lead to a 24-hour on-call service.

According to a report created by DBHDS and presented to the General Assembly in December of 2014: *“The total number of CSB emergency evaluators who exclusively provide crisis contacts and emergency evaluations was 495 (293 full-time and 202 part-time staff). An additional 534 fulltime staff and 60 part-time staff provide crisis contacts and emergency evaluations as a part of their assigned duties. (Chart 4.1.1b)”*

The fiscal implications to this legislation result from the costs of contracting to provide 24/7 technical assistance and guidance to these evaluators. For these estimates, the average cost per call at the state’s poison control call centers of \$61.59, as included in 2012 Virginia Department of Health report to the General Assembly, is used as a guideline.

For the first half of FY 2015, there have been on average 6,500 emergency evaluations provided per month. Clearly, not every evaluation leads to an ECO/TDO and/or would require technical assistance. For the purposes of this estimate, based on information provided last session from the Compensation Board, approximately 12,000 ECOs were issued in 2013 that required law enforcement presence.

Cost per Call	Number of Calls	Total
\$61.59	12,000	\$739,080

This is assumed to be a possible maximum impact of this legislation given currently available data. The actual fiscal impact will depend on the number of calls, the actual cost per call for this type of service, and the scope of the contracts the agency enters into with private providers for this service.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Community Services Boards

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.