

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1221

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Barker

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Emergency custody or involuntary admission process; alternative transportation model.

5. Summary: Directs the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Director of Criminal Justice Services, in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders, to develop a comprehensive model for the use of alternative transportation providers to provide safe and efficient transportation of individuals involved in the emergency custody or involuntary admission process as an alternative to transportation by law enforcement. The bill requires that the model be completed by October 1, 2017, and reported to the Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century, the House Committee for Courts of Justice, and the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The creation of a comprehensive model for alternative transportation will require staff hours to work on the development of a funding model and curriculum development as well as to coordinate with stakeholders. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services does have information and experience from an alternative transportation pilot that was implemented in Southwest Virginia; however, it is only one model for one area of the state. The pilot can inform this study but it will require additional staff hours to build a statewide model. It is anticipated that the staff hours required can be absorbed within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Department of Criminal Justice Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is a companion to HB1426.