

Department of Planning and Budget

2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 1359

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: McPike

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Local school boards; school buildings; potable water; lead testing.

5. Summary: Requires each local school board to develop and implement a plan to test potable water from sources identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as high priority as often as is required of the supplying public water system by the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water, giving priority in such testing plan to schools whose school building was constructed, in whole or in part, before 1986. The bill requires such plan and the results of each such test to be posted on the local school board's website and transmitted to and archived by the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water. The bill stipulates that if the result of any such test indicates a level of lead in the potable water that is at or above 20 parts per billion, the school board shall develop, implement, and post on its website a plan to remediate the level of lead in the potable water to below 20 parts per billion and confirm such remediation by retesting the water at two consecutive six-month intervals.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: See item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would have a fiscal impact on the Commonwealth, however the total impact cannot be determined at this time. The bill requires every local school board to develop and implement a plan to test all high priority water sources at their schools. The bill also requires that the plans and test results be uploaded to the Department of Health (VDH) to be archived in a central database. Lastly, the bill stipulates that if a test result is above an indicated threshold, that the water source shall be retested and plans implemented until levels are remediated. VDH estimates that one Administrative & Office Specialist will be necessary to track, receive, and archive the plans and test results. The estimated total personal service costs (salary plus fringe benefits) is anticipated to be \$65,842 for the additional position.

However, there are 133 local school boards throughout Virginia, each with a varying number of schools, and each with an unknown number of priority water sources that would need follow up retesting and remediation. The Department of Health cannot estimate the number

of priority water sources that would be identified that would also need follow up testing and remediation throughout the Commonwealth. If the volume is large enough, VDH would need additional positions to handle the workload associated with follow up remediation, tracking, and archiving the results of each test.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: HB 2089, introduced by Delegate Kory, is a companion bill.