

## Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB 979

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed  
**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Rodman

**3. Committee:** Health, Welfare and Institutions

**4. Title:** Drinking water; lead levels.

**5. Summary:** Directs the State Board of Health to adopt regulations establishing the action level for lead in drinking water as no more than 10 parts per billion beginning January 1, 2019, and no more than five parts per billion beginning January 1, 2023. The bill authorizes the Board to establish lower action levels for lead in drinking water.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, see item 8.

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2019	91,528	1	General
2020	86,528	1	General
2021	86,528	1	General
2022	86,528	1	General
2023	432,640	5	General

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill would have a fiscal impact on the Commonwealth to adopt and comply with regulations to decrease the level of lead in drinking water. Specifically, this bill directs the Board to adopt regulations reducing the lead action level in drinking water from 15 ppb to 10 ppb beginning January 1, 2019. The estimate to revise the Waterworks Regulations, 12VAC5-590, is a one-time cost of \$5,000 in FY 2019. Based upon data collected by the Department of Health (VDH) from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2017, approximately 25 additional sources have been identified that would need to be addressed by staff to reduce the lead action level to 10 ppb per year. The agency has estimated that an identified source that exceeds the lead action level would require 65 hours of staff time to fully address the issue in accordance with the Virginia *Waterworks Regulations*. In order to address the 25 identified sources that exceed the action lead level, approximately 1,625 staff hours would be required. The agency assumes that one position works approximately 1,840 hours a year, therefore one position would be required to address workload associated with the identified sources. The average total personal service cost (salary plus benefits) is anticipated to be \$86,528 for the position.

This bill also directs the Board to adopt regulations reducing the lead action level in drinking water to 5 ppb beginning January 1, 2023. The same data set has identified approximately 106 additional sources that exceed 5 ppb and would need to be addressed in addition to the 25 waterworks that initially exceeded 10 ppb. The agency would require five positions to address these 106 exceedances, which require an estimated 6,890 hours of staff time. The average total personal service cost (salary plus benefits) is anticipated to be \$432,640 for the five additional positions.

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

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.