

Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1849

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: Adams, D.M.

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Practice of dental hygiene; remote supervision; employment or supervision.

5. Summary: Allows a dental hygienist employed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Department) to practice under the remote supervision of a dentist employed by the Department or the Department of Health. Under current law, only a dental hygienist or dentist employed by the Virginia Department of Health may practice or supervise remotely. The bill also adds mobile dentistry programs operated by the Department for adults with developmental disabilities to the list of locations where a dental hygienist may practice under the remote supervision of a licensed dentist and directs the Department to annually submit a report of services provided by such dental hygienists to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, see item #8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The fiscal impact this bill would have on the Commonwealth cannot be determined. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) has stated that this legislation would expand the geographical scope of dental services provided by DBHDS and increase access for individuals with developmental disabilities. DBHDS currently employs dental professionals who provide dental care to individuals who are not able to find a permanent dental home within 50 miles of their residence. If there is a significant increase in the number of individuals who seek to obtain dental care through DBHDS, there is the potential that additional funds would be required to meet this need. However, permitting a hygienist to provide the service under remote supervision could reduce the cost of providing the mobile services even if the number of individuals seen increases. It is, however, difficult to determine the probability and degree to which these dynamics would occur. As a result, the fiscal impact of this bill on DBHDS is indeterminate

This bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Health Professions.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Behavior Health and Developmental Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.