

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB617-ER

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

2. Patron: Guzman

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission to engage a national research organization to examine the implications of covering workers' injuries caused by repetitive motion through the Virginia workers' compensation system.

5. Summary: Directs the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission to engage an independent and reputable national research organization to examine the implications of covering workers' injuries caused by repetitive motion through the Virginia workers' compensation system. The Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission shall submit proposed options and policy considerations to the House Committee on Appropriations and Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 30, 2020.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Indeterminate – see Item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate – see Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill requires the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission (VWC) to engage an independent and reputable national research organization with expertise in workers' compensation to conduct an analysis to (i) develop options for covering workers' injuries caused by repetitive motion through the Virginia workers' compensation system and (ii) summarize key policy considerations associated with modifying the Code of Virginia to cover injuries caused by repetitive motion. The analysis shall take into consideration (a) the annual number of injuries caused by repetitive motion to workers in Virginia and other states; (b) other states' evidentiary requirements for claiming workers' compensation benefits for such injuries; (c) necessary changes to Virginia's statutory provisions; and (d) impacts on workers, employers, and insurers.

The VWC would need to hire a research firm to examine the implications of covering workers' injuries caused by repetitive motion through the Virginia workers' compensation system. The VWC is expected to incur a one-time cost to hire a research firm with workers' compensation expertise as required by the legislation; however, the cost is not known at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.