

# 1996 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## SENATE BILL NO. 21

Offered January 10, 1996

*A BILL to require the Board of Health to implement a needs-based allocation formula.*

Patrons—Earley; Delegates: Forbes, Nelms and Spruill

Referred to the Committee on Education and Health

Whereas, in 1989, the Virginia Department of Health developed a needs-based allocation formula for use in the state/local cooperative budget—the mechanism for funding district and local health departments; and

Whereas, although the need for this formula has not been refuted, the formula has never been implemented because of state funding crises; and

Whereas, local health departments are diverse in terms of the quantity and scope of health services actually delivered, with some local health departments delivering extensive health services to the working poor and other individuals such as school children; and

Whereas, these local health departments are funded primarily with local funds to carry-out many state requirements, thereby presenting a fairness issue related to distribution of state resources to localities; now, therefore

### **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. §1.** *On July 1, 1996, the Board of Health shall implement the needs-based allocation formula developed in 1989 or, a needs-based allocation formula consistent with the principles of the 1989 funding allotment for the calculation of the local shares of state funds appropriated for district and local health departments and distributed via the state/local cooperative budget. The needs-based allocation formula used by the Board shall consider local demographic factors, including, but not limited to, growth rates, population density, local wealth, mortality data, teen pregnancy rates, disease incidences, environmental concerns, and other factors influencing local public health costs.*

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