

Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 1282

House of Origin X Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Newman, Stephen D.

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Health Professions, Department of; prohibited from providing personal information of those licensed

5. Summary: Prohibits the Department of Health Professions from providing a list of home addresses and other personal information of individuals licensed as health professionals to any private entity for resale to another private entity or the public. The bill also directs the Enterprise Application Public-Private Partnership Office to take appropriate action to prevent the sale of any list of home addresses and other personal information of individuals licensed as health professionals by Virginia Interactive or any other private entity.

6. Fiscal impact estimate is preliminary

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Health Professions (DHP) currently provides practitioner data, at no cost, to Virginia Interactive (VI) in exchange for VI to host the free License Lookup service, handle certain Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, as well as provide user assistance to these services. In addition, VI uses the practitioner data to generate downloadable lists of DHP licensees which it sells to various requesting organizations.

This bill would prohibit DHP from releasing practitioners' personal data (i.e. home address), which in turn would prohibit the department from contracting with VI for the release of publicly available licensee addresses. Moreover, DHP would be required to bring its licensure lookup and FOIA duties in-house. The agency maintains that it does not have sufficient resources to handle these duties. VI currently uses two full-time administrative employees, periodic part-time positions and a senior programmer to handle the workload generated by its contract with DHP. It is assumed that the department would need similar staff and appropriation to take on the additional responsibilities; however this statement assumes one less full-time position since it is likely that the FOIA requests could be fewer since DHP can no longer provide organizations with a practitioner's personal information. In addition, it is expected that the department's overhead costs (chiefly information technology) would also increase. It is estimated that the cost for the necessary positions and associated nonpersonal services would be between \$175,000 and \$210,000 each year. This costs would be funded with a mixture of practitioner fee and FIOA revenue.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Health Professions

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/28/2009

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources