

**Department of Planning and Budget  
2011 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB 1117

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

**2. Patron:** Northam

**3. Committee:** Education and Health

**4. Title:** Death certificates; who may sign

**5. Summary:** Allows supervised nurse practitioners and physician assistants to determine cause of death and sign death certificates, provided they have access to the decedent's medical history and the death is due to natural causes. In addition, the bill expands the description of which physicians may determine cause of death and sign a death certificate and provides civil immunity to physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners who sign death certificates and determine cause of death, in the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** No.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** None.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** No.

**Date:** 1/25/2011

**Document:** G:\VDH\GA\Legislation\FIS\FY 2011\SB1117.doc