

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1005

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: Levine

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Virginia Human Rights Act; public employment, public accommodation, and housing.

5. Summary: Prohibits discrimination in employment and public accommodation on the basis of sexual orientation. The bill defines "sexual orientation" as a person's actual or perceived heterosexuality, bisexuality, homosexuality, or gender identity or expression. The bill expressly provides that "sexual orientation" does not include any person's attraction toward persons with whom sexual conduct would be illegal due to the age of the parties. The bill also codifies existing prohibited discrimination in public employment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age, marital status, disability, or status as a veteran. The bill also adds discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity as an unlawful discriminatory housing practice. The bill contains technical amendments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The current policies of the Commonwealth are consistent with the provisions of this bill except regarding the protection for sexual orientation, which is not presently covered by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended or the Virginia Human Rights Act. According to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), the passage of House Bill 1005 would not result in a state fiscal impact; however, if House Bill 1005 and other bills that prohibit discrimination are passed, there could be an increase in the agency's case load, which would require an increase in staff. The OAG would need to hire one full-time investigator and a part-time attorney. The OAG estimates the cost for a full-time investigator would be \$83,000 and \$60,000 for a part-time attorney.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All state agencies and localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.