

## Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB417

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

**2. Patron:** Vogel

**3. Committee:** Rehabilitation and Social Services

**4. Title:** Department of Social Services; unauthorized practice of law.

**5. Summary:** Department of Social Services; unauthorized practice of law. Allows designated nonattorney employees of a local department of social services to (i) initiate a case on behalf of the local department by appearing before an intake officer and (ii) complete, sign, and file with the clerk of the juvenile and domestic relations district court, on forms approved by the Supreme Court of Virginia, petitions for foster care review, petitions for permanency planning hearings, petitions to establish paternity, motions to establish or modify support, motions to amend or review an order, and motions for a rule to show cause. The bill also directs directors of local departments of social services to designate nonattorney employees who are authorized to perform such tasks.

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

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** None.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill does not have a fiscal impact on the state Department of Social Services. It could result in a cost avoidance for localities if the local Department of Social Services chooses to have staff file petitions and initiate cases instead of outside counsel.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Social Services and local Departments of Social Services

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

**11. Other Comments:**