

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB524

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: McPike

3. Committee: Commerce and Labor

4. Title: Workers' compensation; presumption of compensability for certain diseases.

5. Summary: Substitutes colorectal cancer, which is cancer that starts in the colon or rectum, for rectal cancer on the list of cancers that are presumed to be an occupational disease covered by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act when certain employees develop the cancer after contact with a known or suspected carcinogen that causes, or is suspected to cause, the specific type of cancer.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Workers' Compensation Program (Program) at the Department of Human Resource Management, the Program does not have the claim experience to determine the cost for adding colorectal cancer to the list of cancers that are presumed to be an occupation disease compensable under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act. However, if a workers' compensation claim was filed and found to be compensable, it would likely be costly due to the cost of medical care in cancer claims as well as the potential for the claim to convert to a death claim. The increase in claims costs may also result in higher workers' compensation premiums for the employing agency.

The proposed legislation is also expected to impact the state's Line of Duty Program; however, the estimated fiscal impact for the Line of Duty Program cannot be determined.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Workers' Compensation Commission, Department of Human Resource Management, Department of Emergency Management, Department of State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles, and Department of Accounts.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar to HB195 (Lingamfelter).