

Department of Planning and Budget

2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1447

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Delegate Miyares

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Establish a substance abuse recovery housing program

5. Summary: This bill requires, by July 1, 2021, that baccalaureate public institutions of higher education housing at least 25 percent of their undergraduate students would establish a substance abuse recovery housing program to provide recovering students with a substance-free dormitory environment and appropriate support services. Furthermore, this proposed legislation allows participating institutions to designate a portion of a dormitory for that purpose.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate (see Section 8)

8. Fiscal Implications: Given that student housing is a revenue generating enterprise for the public institutions of higher education, no general fund support would be required to implement this proposed legislation. If this proposed legislation were implemented today, approximately 12 public institutions of higher education would be required to participate. Nevertheless, it would be difficult to determine the total cost resulting from this bill.

Each affected institution would need to implement a substance abuse recovery housing program that addresses the number and needs of its unique student population as well as housing constraints. Some institutions already provide varying levels of support to their students who are recovering from substance abuse. Estimated costs resulting from this proposed legislation could be substantial due to such factors as lost revenue from the potential number of unfilled beds located in the designated areas, renovation costs associated with the designated areas, the salaries of resident advisors/directors and licensed professional counselors, and other training support services and materials that might be deemed necessary.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia's public institutions of higher education with at least 25 percent of students living on campus.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: Consideration might be given to have the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services work collaboratively with the public institutions of higher education

to define a “substance-free dormitory environment” and “support services” as well as to establish criteria for designating a recovery housing area within a dormitory.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 01/16/17

c: Secretary of Education