

Department of Planning and Budget

2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1863

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Lopez

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Virginia Initiative for Employment Not Welfare; hardship exception.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Social Services to (i) keep records of the number of Virginia Initiative for Employment Not Welfare (VIEW) participants that receive an exception to the time limitations on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) due to hardship and the specific circumstances relied upon to grant such exceptions and (ii) annually publish nonidentifying statistics regarding such information.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2017	-	-	-
2018	\$164,000	-	Nongeneral
2019	-	-	-
2020	-	-	-
2021	-	-	-
2022	-	-	-
2023	-	-	-

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill requires the Department of Social Services to maintain records of the number of and the circumstances surrounding VIEW participants that receive time limit exceptions due to hardship as a result of this legislation. Additionally, the Department would be required to publish statistics on this information annually. Currently, there is a 60-month lifetime limit for TANF eligibility; however, a VIEW caseworker may grant a hardship exception to that limit according to a predetermined set of hardship criteria.

The Department uses the Virginia Case Management System (VaCMS) for TANF client information statistics. This bill would require one-time VaCMS changes, including

recordkeeping and coding changes, to facilitate implementation. The current vendor contract requires the use of contractors for all VaCMS coding. It is estimated that six additional contractors will be needed for a total cost of \$120,000 (6 contractors x \$250 per hour x 80 hours). In addition, five contractors working for the Department will be needed to perform testing prior to system deployment. The Department contractors will cost \$44,000 (5 contractors x \$110 per hour x 80 hours).

Therefore, to facilitate the recordkeeping and coding changes to VaCMS pursuant to this legislation, total funding of \$164,000 is needed. There are sufficient balances in the TANF block grant to fund these one-time expenses in FY 2018.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: