

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB855

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: Murphy

3. Committee: Health, Welfare, and Institutions

4. Title: Group homes; license application; notice.

5. Summary: Defines "group home" for the purposes of licensure of private providers by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and provides that "group home" does not include any facility licensed by the Department of Health.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: See Item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill adds a definition for “group home” to the Code of Virginia. It specifically defines that a group home “does not include any facility at which medical services are provided”. Currently, DBHDS licensed group homes serve individuals which in addition to developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, and/or behavioral health needs, may also have medical needs. Many individuals living in group homes receive services from medical professionals who visit and provide care to the individuals within the home. This legislation would prevent DBHDS licensed group homes from allowing such services to be rendered or would result in loss of licensure of these group homes, possibly resulting in fewer community-based options for individuals with medical needs. This could potentially result in more individuals admitted to state hospitals, which are already over capacity, or other medical settings.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Department of Social Services, Licensed Providers

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This legislation may put the Commonwealth at risk of noncompliance with the terms of the settlement agreement with the federal Department of Justice, which requires that individuals in the target population with developmental disabilities, who often have medical needs, be served in the “most integrated setting”, including group homes where appropriate. The consequences of such noncompliance are unknown.