

Department of Planning and Budget

2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB845ER

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

2. Patron: Ebbin

3. Committee: Passed both Houses.

4. Title: Local school boards; mold testing; parental notification.

5. Summary: Requires each local school board to develop and implement a plan to test and, if necessary, remediate mold from sources identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as high priority for testing. The bill requires local school boards to give priority in the testing plan to schools whose school building was constructed, in whole or in part, before 1986 and to submit their testing plan and any testing results to the Department of Health. The bill also requires local school boards to take all steps necessary to notify the parents of all enrolled students if testing results indicate the presence of mold in a school building. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2021.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: See item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final, see item 8.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2021		
2022	\$195,950	01000
2023	\$45,700	01000
2024	\$45,700	01000
2025	\$45,700	01000
2026	\$45,700	01000

8. Fiscal Implications: The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) would need to develop a database to accept and track plans and results that school boards submit. Based on the cost of existing hardware and infrastructure for similar databases within the agency, the cost to develop a similar system is estimated to be \$195,950 in the first year. The ongoing operation and maintenance cost, including user access and support for the module is estimated to be \$45,700 per year.

The bill does not require VDH to take any action on the plans or results that local school boards submit. However, if VDH were required to review plans or provide technical assistance to the local school boards, additional resources would be necessary. The

department maintains that it would be necessary to review each plan, submit feedback to the local school boards, further review each plan, conduct mold sampling at each school, and test each mold sample. There are approximately 2,106 schools in Virginia that would each submit a plan to VDH for review. The total number of rooms tested and the number of samples tested for mold is unknown. The schools must develop their own plans and testing protocols.

VDH estimates that each school would have an average of 20 samples taken per school. Assuming each school samples every year pursuant to its plan, VDH estimates that schools might collect and analyze over 42,120 samples for mold each year. If the bills intent is for VDH to take an active role in review plans or providing assistance, the agency estimates it would need three environmental inspectors to handle this increase in workload. The cost of these positions is estimated to be \$175,000 and is not included in table 7 above.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Virginia Department of Health and all local school boards.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.