

Department of Planning and Budget
2020 Special Session I - Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB5105

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: Robinson

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Commissioner of Health; publication of information about certain communicable diseases; COVID-19 progress benchmarks; emergency.

5. Summary: Requires that when the Commissioner of Health determines that a communicable disease of public health significance exists in the Commonwealth, he shall ensure that any available rapid diagnostic testing indicating the existence of such communicable disease is readily available to all essential workers in the Commonwealth. Priority for access to such testing shall go to (i) health care providers, (ii) law-enforcement officers, (iii) emergency medical services personnel and emergency medical services providers, (iv) patients in nursing homes who are determined by the nursing home to be high-risk patients, (v) public and private elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth, and (vi) public institutions of higher education and private institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth. The bill contains an emergency clause.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. No Fiscal Impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Commonwealth. The bill would prioritize available rapid diagnostic testing for essential workers.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: None.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The phrase "any available" is ambiguous. "Any available" could be interpreted as requiring an ample supply of each rapid diagnostic test available in the United States, in which case VDH would need to address the costs associated with acquiring these tests. It is assumed that "any available" is meant to require a sufficient supply of rapid diagnostic tests on hand, generally. If this assumption is correct, then this bill would not have a fiscal impact as it would only require the prioritization of existing resources.

