

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB426

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

**2. Patron:** Cole

**3. Committee:** Committee Referral Pending

**4. Title:** Board of Counseling; licensure of professional counselors without examination.

**5. Summary:** That the Board of Counseling (the Board) shall review the regulations for the licensure of professional counselors and develop an examination alternative to licensure that does not conflict with the requirements set forth in the Counseling Compact entered into under § 54.1-3500.1 of the Code of Virginia. Under this alternative pathway, the Board may issue a license to practice as a professional counselor without examination to an individual who has applied for such license and who satisfies all other education, experience, and fitness to practice requirements.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. No Fiscal Impact.**

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This legislation would not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Health.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** None.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.