

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB155

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: Head

3. Committee: Passed both Houses.

4. Title: Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority.

5. Summary: Modifies the enabling legislation for the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority by adding four additional ex officio members to the Authority, directing changes to regulations regarding qualifications for nursing faculty and qualified mental health professionals. The bill directs the Board of Nursing to adopt emergency regulations to implement relevant provisions of the bill and for the work group to submit its report to the Governor and the relevant committees of the General Assembly by January 1, 2025. Establishes a licensing procedure by the Board of Psychology for a psychological practitioner as defined in the bill. The bill establishes the Virginia Health Workforce Innovation Fund to be administered by the Director of the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: See item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final.

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill is silent on whether moneys in the Virginia Health Care Career and Technical Training and Education Fund are available for administrative costs. Any expenditure impact to the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement (DWDA) is indeterminate, as it depends on the level of funding at which the new Fund is capitalized. Based on similar programs, DWDA estimates that the equivalent of six to ten percent of funds available will be sufficient for administrative costs. Any general fund support provided for this purpose can be allocated to Item 355, HB30/SB30 as introduced.

The provisions of this legislation would have a fiscal impact on the Board of Psychology as it creates a new pathway for licensure for psychological practitioners. The Department of Health Professions (DHP) estimates that the number of new licensees created by this new licensing category would be equal to the current number of licensed psychologists.

The boards are currently at operating capacity and in need of additional licensing staff to handle the existing licensing volume. The agency estimates it would need one position at

\$97,476, which would be supported by application fees. Any appropriation should be allocated to item 285.

Any increase in workload to promulgate regulations can be handled within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: DHP.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.