

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB411

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ Enrolled

2. Patron: Boysko

3. Committee: Passed both houses

4. Title: Animal testing facilities; public notification; report.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to convene a task force on transparency in publicly funded animal testing facilities for the purposes of identifying potential deficiencies in publicly funded animal testing facilities, recommending methods and context for making certain information about such animal testing facilities publicly available, including information pertaining to instances of noncompliance with federal animal welfare regulations, guidelines, or policies, as well as the care, use, and approximate numbers of animals used for research, education, testing, or other experimental, scientific, or medical purposes by each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth. The bill also requires the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources, Finance, and Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and Finance and Appropriations no later than November 1, 2024.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) anticipates the need to hire a facilitator to conduct this Task Force, as the agency does not have in-house animal testing expertise. VDACS estimates a one-time cost of approximately \$15,000 to hire such a facilitator. VDACS anticipates that it can absorb this cost within its existing appropriation. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia anticipates that any increased responsibilities associated with the requirements of the Task Force can be absorbed within current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to HB580.