

**Department of Planning and Budget
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

Additionally, the substitute bill is not expected to have a material fiscal impact on the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (OSHHR), and the Office of the Attorney General (OAG).

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>
VDH	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132
TOTAL	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132	\$46,132

Fiscal Analysis: The provisions of this legislation, as amended, would have a fiscal impact on the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to establish and support the Virginia Forensic Nursing Advisory Council and coordinate with other agencies, such as DCJS.

The bill provides that the Council shall be staffed by sexual assault forensic examiners, who have completed the recommended education and training and are approved by the Board of Health. The Board shall also determine qualifications of prospective sexual assault forensic examiners. VDH is not familiar with the intricacies of sexual assault forensic examiners in the Commonwealth. VDH also does not currently do work related to the certification of any type of nurses. The Department of Health Professions (DHP) regulates all nurses.

VDH estimates it would need part of a position to gather and analyze data on the status of sexual assault forensics for the Council, work in consultation with DCJS to develop data sharing parameters and processes regarding sexual assault forensic examiners and approval status, and to interpret epidemiological data for the Council. VDH estimates a position would dedicate 25 percent of their time to these efforts and would cost \$33,836, including salary, telecommunications, and VITA.

To support activities of the Virginia Forensic Nursing Advisory Council, VDH estimates it would need \$12,296 in additional support. Cost estimates are based on five council members meeting four times annually. Cost estimates include \$4,956 for mileage reimbursement, \$1,200 for meals and incidentals, \$800 for the provision of lunch at meetings, \$3,140 for lodging for council members, and \$1,000 for a stipend for each meeting per § 2.2-2813 Code of Virginia.

If VDH is charged with providing additional administrative assistance, technical assistance, or providing subject matter expertise, additional funding may be needed.

The substitute removed the Council from under the Criminal Justice Services Board, which eliminated the fiscal impact of the introduced bill. Provided that the substitute as introduced would not require DCJS to provide staff or financial resources to carry-out the legislation, there is no anticipated fiscal impact to DCJS.

According to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission (VWC), this bill will have a minimal impact on VWC/Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF). The bill mandates sexual assault forensic examiner (SAFE) payments for mileage incurred by Forensic Nurses to conduct physical evidence recovery kit examinations

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(PERKS). Impact on VWC/CICF is minimal as these funds would come from the general fund appropriation that supports the SAFE/PERK payments.

Other: Revised to include information from VDH on January 29, 2025.