

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB1363

Patron: Pillion

Bill Title: Elimination of Board of Health Professions; transfer of powers and duties.

Bill Summary: Eliminates the Board of Health Professions and transfers certain powers and duties from the Board to the Department of Health Professions.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: n/a

Explanation: This bill does not require that adjustments or language changes be made to the proposed Appropriation Act. See fiscal analysis below.

Fiscal Summary: This legislation is expected to result in some cost savings to the Department of Health Professions, which will be reallocated to support other operations within the agency. The bill is not expected to lead to additional spending by state agencies. See fiscal analysis below.

Fiscal Analysis: The Board of Health Professions (“the Board”) currently serves in an advisory role to the other thirteen health regulatory boards, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Governor, and the General Assembly on the regulation of certain health professions and occupations throughout the Commonwealth. The Department of Health Professions (DHP) reports that the responsibilities of the Board are primarily related to policy guidance, studies, and other advisory matters, and that many of the statutory responsibilities of the Board now lie with the other regulatory boards that govern specific health professions or occupations. Additionally, DHP reports that any responsibilities relegated to the Board of Health Professions that are not managed by other boards can be absorbed as part of DHP’s central office operations, such as practitioner self-referral review, providing guidance on regulatory authority and actions, and other general policy duties as outlined in the bill text.

The Department of Health Professions reports that eliminating the Board of Health Professions will result in nongeneral fund cost savings to the agency of roughly \$99,000 per year, which is the estimated amount that the agency’s other health regulatory boards contribute in fee revenue to support the Board’s operating costs. These savings are primarily related to the cost of convening regular Board meetings, including per diems, travel costs, food, room rentals, and technology costs. DHP does not report any personnel actions resulting from this bill as staff servicing the Board of Health Professions also work with several other health regulatory boards within the agency; it is expected that such staff will experience only minimal impacts to existing workload as a result of Board dissolution.

DHP expects to reallocate the \$99,000 in expected cost savings to support operational needs across all health regulatory boards and/or temporarily offset additional licensure fee increases for such boards. It is not expected that the cost savings attributable to each individual health regulatory board will cause any board to be out of compliance with the provisions of the Callahan Act as defined in § 54.1-113, *Code of Virginia*.

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Other: n/a