

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB1481

Patron: Stanley

Bill Title: Animal testing facilities operated by public institutions of higher education; report.

Bill Summary: Requires each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth that operates an animal testing facility to publish an annual report that includes specific information about such institution's animal testing operations. The bill requires each such institution to submit the annual report to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, which shall make it publicly available on its website.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Indeterminate

Explanation: This bill impacts public institutions of higher education (IHEs) and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). Multiple public IHEs anticipate considerable one-time and ongoing costs to meet the requirements of the bill. SCHEV anticipates no fiscal impact. The actual fiscal impact to public IHEs is indeterminate at this time.

Fiscal Summary: Responding public IHEs anticipate considerable costs to meet the provisions of this bill associated with additional staffing, technology, researcher compensation, and administrative costs for ongoing data collection, reporting, and compliance. Affected IHEs would require additional infrastructure to meet the provisions of this bill through increased tracking software and technology, increased staffing and staff time to manually track and record required data and collaborate across departments, or a combination of both. Affected IHEs anticipate \$1.0 - \$2.3 million in one-time costs and approximately \$100,000 - \$900,000 in ongoing costs per institution to support these enhancements and meet the bill's requirements. Institutions expect increased outyear costs due to software escalation and inflation. Additionally, institutions anticipate that the additional requirements may limit future grant opportunities and revenues. The actual fiscal impact to public IHEs is indeterminate at this time. There is no fiscal impact to SCHEV.

Other: The fiscal impact is preliminary and based on feedback from public IHEs as of the date of publication.