

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

PUBLISHED: 1/31/2025 10:51 AM

SUBSTITUTE

Bill Number: HB1937

Patron: Hope

Bill Title: Acute psychiatric bed registry; Bed Registry Advisory Council; patient privacy and data security; Virginia Freedom of Information Act exemption.

Bill Summary: Requires the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to include provisions for the protection of patient privacy and data security pursuant to state and federal law and regulations in contracts with private entities for the administration of the acute psychiatric bed registry. The bill requires the Commissioner to create the Bed Registry Advisory Council, consisting of representatives from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, the Virginia College of Emergency Physicians, and the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards; two representatives from hospitals or health systems; two emergency physician representatives, and two representatives from community services boards to advise the Commissioner and any such private entity on the administration of such registry and to review and approve requests for access to data from the registry. The bill also creates a Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemption for information submitted to such registry.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted:

Fiscal Summary: There is no fiscal impact to this legislation.

Fiscal Analysis: The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services does not anticipate a fiscal impact from this legislation. Any minimal administrative costs can be absorbed in existing resources.

Other: This bill is a companion to SB1439.