

**Department of Planning and Budget  
2026 General Assembly Session  
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** SB292

**Patron:** Aird

**Bill Title:** Local health directors; evaluation criteria; reports.

**Bill Summary:** Requires the State Health Commissioner to establish evaluation criteria for each local health director heading a local health department no later than October 1, 2026. The bill further requires the Commissioner to evaluate each local health director on an annual basis using such criteria and issue a written report that includes findings of such evaluation to each director and, in certain cases, to the General Assembly.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes

**Items Impacted:** 281

**Explanation:** VDH will require additional general fund appropriation and one position to comply with the provisions of this legislation, attributable to Item 281 (Community Health Services).

**General Fund Expenditure Impact:**

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
VDH	-	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000

**Position Impact:**

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
VDH	-	1	1	1	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	1	1	1	1	1

**Fiscal Analysis:** The provisions of this legislation would have a fiscal impact on the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) by requiring the agency to establish evaluation criteria for each local health director and to perform annual evaluations thereafter. Specifically, the bill requires the Commissioner to issue a written evaluation report documenting any findings to each local health director. If during that evaluation it is determined that performance standards have not been met, the Commissioner will issue a corrective plan to the affected local health director. The corrective plan would include increased monitoring of the local health director and the associated local health department.

VDH does not have resources in the Office of Community Health Services to support this legislative requirement. VDH would need additional general fund resources to hire a position to support the analysis and development of reports related to the various metrics for each local health department. This position would also be required to support increased performance monitoring for those health directors subject to a

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corrective plan. Increased performance monitoring would include periodic on-site technical assistance, oversight of quality assurance strategy implementation, and progress monitoring.

The total cost for this position is expected to be \$131,000 annually. This estimate is based on current job market analysis and includes fringe benefits, associated VITA IT and telecommunications cost, supplies, travel and professional development.

**Other:** None