

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

PUBLISHED: 1/27/2026 9:33 AM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB308

Patron: Pekarsky

Bill Title: Opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths; Department of Health to reduce rates, report.

Bill Summary: Designates the Department of Health as the lead agency responsible for the coordination of activities to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department to (i) develop a strategic plan to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth, (ii) coordinate efforts across state agencies to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth, and (iii) monitor the implementation and outcome of efforts to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department to work with the Secretaries of Health and Human Resources, Education, and Public Safety and Homeland Security and such other stakeholders and state agencies as may be appropriate. The bill requires the Department to report annually to the General Assembly by December 1 regarding the implementation of the plan and outcome of efforts to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: 278 and 280

Explanation: The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) will require additional general fund appropriation to comply with the provisions of this legislation, attributable to Item 278 (Communicable Disease Prevention and Control) and Item 280 (State Health Services).

Fiscal Summary: The provisions of this legislation would have a fiscal impact on the Virginia Department of Health. The bill would require VDH to develop and maintain a strategic plan, coordinate prevention and harm reduction efforts across state agencies, and monitor the implementation and outcome of efforts to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth. VDH does not have sufficient resources to absorb this increase in workload.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031
VDH (601)		\$329,660	\$329,660	\$329,660	\$329,660	\$329,660
TOTAL		\$329,660	\$329,660	\$329,660	\$329,660	\$329,660

Position Impact:

Agency	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031
VDH (601)		2	2	2	2	2
TOTAL		2	2	2	2	2

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

Fiscal Analysis: VDH would require two program managers to manage and coordinate the requirements of the legislation, including interagency coordination, developing a strategic plan, and monitoring implementation and outcome of efforts to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths. Two program managers are required as the monitoring and administrative requirements are spread across two different offices.

One program manager is needed in the Office of Epidemiology's Division of Pharmacy Services to coordinate opioid use reduction strategies and coordinate current agency efforts across state agencies. This individual would have the pharmaceutical expertise to provide guidance on reducing rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths. This cost for this position is estimated to be \$164,830, which includes salary, fringe benefits, phone, and VITA costs.

One program manager is needed in the Office of Family Health Services Division of Prevention and Health Promotion to coordinate the development of the interagency strategic plan and monitor the implementation of the plan. This cost for this position is estimated to be \$164,830, which includes salary, fringe benefits, phone, and VITA costs. These individuals would work together to meet the provisions of the bill , develop a strategic plan, coordinate efforts across state agencies, and submit a report regarding the implementation of the plan and outcome of efforts to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth.

Other: This bill is similar to HB794.