

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB374

Patron: Boysko

Bill Title: Newborn screening requirements

Bill Summary: Requires the Department of Health to conduct evaluations for additional disorders not included on the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel to determine whether such additional disorders should be included under the Commonwealth's newborn screening program. The bill directs the Department to evaluate Gaucher disease for such inclusion as part of this process.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: 68 and 277

Explanation: The Department of General Services (DGS) Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) and the Virginia Department of health will require additional general fund appropriation to comply with the provisions of this legislation, attributable to Item 68 (DGS) and Item 277 (VDH).

Fiscal Summary: VDH's Virginias Newborn Screening Program (VNBSP) currently operates through fee revenue received for providing newborn screening services. Current fee revenue is collected by DGS-DCLS in a special fund and is used to support program costs, including personnel, at VDH. The provisions of this legislation would generate additional revenue that would need to be appropriated at VDH and DGS. It is expected that the estimated revenue is sufficient to offset expected costs. Both agencies report that additional nongeneral positions would also be necessary.

Nongeneral 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 (601)		\$245,237	\$245,237	\$245,237	\$245,237	\$245,237
DGS-DCLS (194)		\$1,569,140	\$1,569,140	\$1,569,140	\$1,569,140	\$1,569,140
TOTAL		\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377

Revenue Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
VDH (601)						
DGS-DCLS (194)		\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377
TOTAL		\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377	\$1,814,377

Position Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
VDH (601)		2	2	2	2	2
DGS-DCLS (194)		4	4	4	4	4
TOTAL		6	6	6	6	6

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Fiscal Analysis: The provisions of this legislation as amended would require VDH to “conduct an evaluation for any disorder with an available assay for newborn screening and a treatment approved for a rare condition by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to determine whether such disorder should be included in the testing required per the bill. Additionally, bill requires VDH to conduct an evaluation to determine whether Gaucher disease should be included in the Commonwealth's newborn screening panel.

VDH would need two positions to support the VNBSP in the review of new and rare disorders meeting the criteria included in the bill and to manage the process and procedures relevant to their review. The cost for these positions, including salary and fringe, are as follows:

- Administrative Specialist (\$123,701): This position will manage documentation, tracking, and operational support for the technical review process.
- Biostatistician (\$121,536): To support the VNBSP in the review of new and rare disorders meeting the criteria included in the bill and managing the process and procedures relevant to their review including workgroup staff support and leading the rule making process.

Total costs for VDH in FY 2027 and thereafter are \$245,237.

Since DGS-DCLS performs the actual screenings for the VNBSP, staff from DGS-DCLS will work closely with VDH on the provisions of the legislation. DGS-DCLS will require funding to coordinate efforts with VDH and to conduct comprehensive, evidence-based reviews for the evaluation of disorders for VNBSP inclusion. The cost for these positions, including salary and fringe, are as follows:

- Two Lead Scientists (2 x \$159,468 = \$318,936): To direct and coordinate the continuous scientific evaluation of new and rare disorders.
- Program Technician (\$75,930): To manage documentation, tracking, and operational support for the technical review process and other related programmatic needs.
- Quality Assurance Principal Scientist (\$134,274): To assess and make determinations as to the feasibility and criteria required to properly validate new laboratory tests for rare disorders.

Given the wide range of disorders that could require evaluation, as well as peer review publications, additional consulting hours are estimated to be 2,080 ongoing, which would cost \$1,040,000. There are approximately dozens of rare disorders that could require evaluation under this legislation. VDH would utilize the expertise of DGS-DCLS for additional evaluations. Therefore DGS-DCLS would seek consulting services with multiple scientists with different areas of expertise to assist with this effort.

The current cost to screen one panel is \$138. Using an annual birth rate of 95,000 based on recent vital records data, the fee would increase by \$19.08 to cover the provisions of the bill.

Total costs for DGS-DCLS in FY 2027 and thereafter are \$1,569,140.

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Other: None.