

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

PUBLISHED: 2/9/2026 4:22 PM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB239S1

Patron: Head

Bill Title: Certificate of public need; medical deserts, expedited review, etc.

Bill Summary: The provisions of the bill, as amended in the nature of a substitute, directs the State Health Services Plan Task Force (the Task Force) to develop recommendations on options for designating areas of the state with an identifiable need for additional projects, taking into account the unique geographic, socioeconomic, cultural, transportation, and other barriers to access to health care and to develop recommendations on specific criteria for determining when expedited review should apply to projects located in such areas. The Commissioner shall report such recommendations to the Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Education and Health by October 1, 2026. The Board of Health shall promulgate updated regulations to implement the expedited application and review process for any certificate for projects reviewable pursuant to subdivision A 5 of § 32.1-102.2, including criteria and considerations that the State Health Commissioner shall apply when making a determination to approve or disapprove such expedited application, by January 1, 2027.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: None

Fiscal Summary: It is assumed that minimal adherence to the provisions of the legislation for the Task Force to develop recommendations can be achieved within existing agency resources.

Fiscal Analysis: Any increase in workload on the Virginia Department of Health or the State Health Services Plan Task Force to develop recommendations, produce a report, and promulgate regulations can be handled within existing resources.

Other: No