

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB133S1

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Convirs-Fowler

3. **Committee:** Finance and Appropriations

4. **Title:** Local gov't; ongoing health care for employees exposed to toxic materials

5. **Summary:** The substitute bill directs the Department of Fire Programs (DFP) to convene a workgroup to identify and analyze options that may be available to local government employees who respond to emergencies that expose them to toxic materials and have access to preemptive health care to aftereffects that are not covered by relevant health insurance plans. The work group will review relevant approaches used in other states and at the federal level for assisting such responders and any nonprofit assistance provided for such purposes.

The work group must report its findings to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 406.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, see Item 8 below.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** According to the Department of Fire Programs (DFP), one additional part-time policy analyst is required to support the proposed work group. DFP reports that due to the proposed work group addressing policies and populations outside of the agency's scope of work, an additional staffer is required to assist in accomplishing the goals of the proposed work group. The cost of the part-time position will be \$23,040 of one-time funding in the first year, assuming the position earns an hourly wage of \$30 per hour, works a maximum of 32 hours per week, and a total term of employment of 24 weeks.

All costs associated with the workgroup are anticipated to be absorbable by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission, the Department of Planning and Budget, and the Department of State Police.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Fire Programs, the Department of Planning and Budget, the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission, Department of State Police.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

11. **Other Comments:** None.