

Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1273

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

2. Patron: R. Creigh Deeds

3. Committee: Rules

4. Title: Behavioral Health Commission created.

5. Summary: Creates the Behavioral Health Commission in the legislative branch of state government for the purpose of (i) studying and making recommendations for the improvement of behavioral health services and the behavioral health service system in the Commonwealth to encourage the adoption of policies to increase the quality and availability of and ensure access to the full continuum of high-quality, effective, and efficient behavioral health services for all persons in the Commonwealth and (ii) providing ongoing oversight of behavioral health services and the behavioral health service system in the Commonwealth, including monitoring and evaluation of established programs, services, and delivery and payment structures and implementation of new services and initiatives in the Commonwealth and development of recommendations for improving such programs, services, structures, and implementation.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, see Item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, see Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The fiscal impact of this bill primarily involves the costs associated with meetings, and potentially staffing. It is estimated member compensation will be approximately \$8,400 for the House and \$6,000 for the Senate. This provides for seven House members and five Senate members attending four meetings per year, the average number of meetings a commission of this nature usually involves, and will be paid by the offices of the Clerk of the House of Delegates or Clerk of the Senate. The travel expenses are expected to be \$15,648 for members, paid from appropriations to the Commission or, if unfunded, shall be approved by the Joint Rules Committee. If meetings will be virtual travel expenses will not be applicable.

The Commission may appoint an executive director and staff. It is unknown how many staff the Commission may hire and the anticipated salaries. If the Commission hires staff and no appropriation is provided for the Commission, the Commission may be funded from the operating budgets of the Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Delegates upon the approval of the Joint Rules Committee.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The House of Delegates, The Senate of Virginia

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.