

## Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB837

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Wilt

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Food and drink law; permitting requirements.

**5. Summary:** Requires any food manufacturer, food storage warehouse, and retail food establishment to obtain a permit from the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services prior to operating. Any such entity issued a permit would be exempt from any other license, permit, or inspection required for the sale, preparation, or handling of food. The bill requires the Commissioner to notify such entities of the reason for denial of a permit and requires that any denial, suspension, or revocation of a permit be carried out in accordance with the Administrative Process Act.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) anticipates this bill will lead to a small increase in administrative work that can be absorbed within existing resources. The VDACS Food Safety Program inventory consists of approximately 13,000 firms. VDACS anticipates issuing permits to the same establishments currently being inspected, so the issuing of permits can be absorbed into current agency operations. If physical permits are issued to retail food establishments, it is estimated the process of issuing permits for retail food establishments utilizing standard methodologies will take an initial 80 hours of administrative support time. This includes assembling and mailing out the majority of permits as well as the issuance of permits as new firms open for business. Thereafter, the issuance of permits will be confined to new food establishments only.

The Virginia Department of Health anticipates no fiscal impact from this legislation.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Department of Health

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

**11. Other Comments:** None