

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB850

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: Reid

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: Lyme disease; signage; instructional resources and materials.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Conservation and Recreation to develop and post in each state park and interstate park signage addressing the appropriate steps a visitor can take to prevent tick bites, how to identify Lyme disease, and where to seek treatment. The bill requires the Department to install such signage first in those areas in the Commonwealth that have been identified as most susceptible to Lyme disease and to complete the installation of such signage in all state parks and interstate parks by January 1, 2028. The bill also requires the Secretary of Education, in collaboration with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Secretary of Natural Resources, to develop instructional resources and materials to assist school boards and local and regional public libraries in establishing an education and awareness program to protect children from Lyme disease and other tick-borne infections. The bill provides that such instructional resources and materials (i) shall be appropriate for individuals of school age; (ii) shall provide information on the identification of ticks, recommended procedures for safe tick removal, and best practices to provide protection from ticks; (iii) may include video productions, pamphlets, and demonstration programs to illustrate the sizes of various ticks, including sizes before and after each variety has become engorged, to assist with the identification of a tick and the reaction on the skin that may result from a tick bite; and (iv) shall be made available to school boards and local and regional public libraries upon request at no charge.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that the Department of Conservation and Recreation can absorb any associated workload and costs within current resources.

The bill requires the Secretary of Education, in collaboration with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Secretary of Natural Resources, to develop instructional resources and materials to assist school boards and local and regional public libraries in establishing an education and awareness program to protect children from Lyme disease and other tick-borne infections. The Virginia Department of Education (DOE) anticipates that it can absorb any cost associated with these provisions. According to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), any fiscal impact this bill may have on the department is indeterminate, as

it is unclear to what extent VDH collaboration with DOE would be required. If DOE requires subject matter expertise in Lyme disease, VDH anticipates providing such expertise through a contractor employed in the Office of Epidemiology at a cost of \$4,302 (10 hours/month x \$35.85 bill rate), which can be absorbed within current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Conservation and Recreation; Department of Education; Department of Health; Secretaries of Education, Health and Human Resources, and Natural and Historic Resources.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: Yes, on line 25, after “Natural” insert “and Historic”

11. Other Comments: None.