

## Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB587

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

**2. Patron:** Peake

**3. Committee:** Education and Health

**4. Title:** Powers of State Health Commissioner in epidemic; vaccine; religious tenets or practices.

**5. Summary:** Allows a parent or guardian to object to the vaccination or immunization of a child on the grounds that the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with his religious tenets or practices, even if an emergency or epidemic of disease has been declared by the State Board of Health, which is not allowed under current law. The bill also provides that nothing shall preclude the State Health Commissioner from requiring immediate immunization of all persons in the case of an epidemic of any disease of public health importance for which a vaccine exists other than a person, including a parent or guardian on behalf of a child, who objects on the grounds that the administration of the vaccine conflicts with his religious tenets or practices. Under current law, the only exception to the Commissioner's power to require immediate immunization of all persons in case of an epidemic of any disease of public health importance for which a vaccine exists is for a person to whose health the administration of a vaccine would be detrimental as certified in writing by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth.

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

**7. No Fiscal Impact.**

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The provisions of this bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Virginia Department of Health. The bill does not require VDH to create a form or establish a process to track these exemptions, therefore there is no fiscal impact. If the intention of the bill is to develop a process and create a database for tracking these exemptions, there would be a fiscal impact to VDH.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** None.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.