

## Department of Planning and Budget 2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB1204

<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** Newman

**3. Committee** Courts of Justice

**4. Title** Code Adam alerts; Virginia Amber Alert Program.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** Requires state buildings open to the public to have a Code Adam program as a preventive tool against child abductions and for locating lost children in certain public buildings. The alerts are used to lockdown buildings where a child has been lost or possibly abducted. The bill requires the Board of Education to develop, in cooperation with private entities, a program to provide parents with child identification kits through school distribution. The kit shall include identification information about the subject child, including current photo, fingerprints, DNA samples, and important medical information and shall include instructions for the proper safekeeping of the kit. Such kits shall be held for safekeeping by the parent, not a school, school board, or other public entity. The bill also establishes the voluntary Amber Alert Program as a means to provide notice and information of a child abduction to the public by the media (local, regional or statewide) to be activated initially in the discretion of the local law enforcement officials.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** See Item 8.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** The fiscal impact of the proposed legislation is not known. The legislation does not clearly state the party that would be responsible for the cost of the kit. The legislation states that a program is to be established "to provide parental access to child identification kits through school distribution." If the kits are not donated, parents, local schools or the Board of Education could be responsible for the cost. Based on the 2002 census, the Virginia school age population totals about 1,462,037. The typical kit sold in the private market costs \$25.00 each. If the state absorbed the costs for these kits, the cost could be in the millions of dollars. However, it should be noted that this legislation follows the Governors' "KIDsafe Virginia" initiative that, by partnering with automobile dealerships statewide, has already made available 80,000 free child DNA kits for Virginia parents.

According to the Department of State Police, there would be no impact to the department resulting from this legislation. Also, the Department of General Services projects a minimal impact that could be absorbed with current funding.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Board of Education, Department of General Services, Department of State Police, local law enforcement agencies, and radio and television stations statewide.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** Identical to HB2102.

**Date:** 01/23/03/jgc

**Document:** DPB G:\JGC\2003session \BillsEFIS \Submitted\SB1204.doc

cc: Secretary of Public Safety  
Secretary of Education  
Secretary of Administration