

Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB291

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

2. Patron Griffith

3. Committee Passed Both Houses

4. Title Sex offenders; registration procedures

5. Summary/Purpose: Clarifies the manner in which a registered sex offender, including persons released from a state civil commitment program for sexually violent predators, must (i) register with the law-enforcement agency of his residence within 10 days prior to a move out of the residence to a new locality, whether within or without the Commonwealth, and (ii) register with the new locality within 10 days following a move to a new residence within the state.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: FINAL; See Item 8 below.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: According to the Department of State Police, the proposal is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the department. The agency states that simply altering the date by which sex offenders must register will not negatively impact registration activities.

As the Sentencing Commission points out in their impact analysis, this proposal could have an impact on local jail bed space. Violators of the new registration requirements can be found guilty of either a Class 6 felony or a Class 1 misdemeanor. However, the number of violators cannot be determined and therefore not enough information is available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates might be in jail because of this proposal. But, anyone convicted of a Class 6 felony is subject to sentence of up to one year in jail, or one to five years in prison, and anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth pays the localities \$8.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board, the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$29.80 per inmate, per day in FY 2002.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Compensation Board, local and regional jails.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

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cc: Secretary of Administration
Secretary of Public Safety