

Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number Senate Bill 185

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ Enrolled

2. Patron Janet D. Howell

3. Committee Passed Both Houses

4. Title Central registry of founded complaints; checks for certain volunteer

5. Summary/Purpose: This bill requires the Department of Social Services to waive the \$5.00 central registry search fee for volunteers in the Virginia affiliate office of Childhelp USA, a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to preventing and treating child abuse and neglect. In accordance with Section 63.1-248.8 of the Code of Virginia, the department currently waives the central registry search fees for volunteers with Virginia affiliates of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America, Compeer, volunteer fire companies or rescue squads, and the court- appointed special advocate program.

6. Minimal Fiscal Impact

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications: The Central Registry Unit is a self-supporting program that relies on the fees collected for registry searches. If the revenue that supports the unit continues to be decreased through waivers, additional revenue (either fee increase or general fund support) will be needed to support the unit's operating expenses. In FY 2003, the Central Registry Unit's total expenditures were \$483,383 and the unit performed 135,167 central registry searches at an average cost of \$3.58 per search. State law requires that the majority of these searches be completed within 10 days of receipt of the request. The department estimates about 200 Childhelp USA volunteers in the Commonwealth. The exemption provided in this legislation will reduce the unit's revenue by \$1,000 each year.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:
Department of Social Services

10. Technical amendment necessary: None

11. Other comments: None

Date: 03/03/04 / kwm

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources