

Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1294ER

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

2. Patron: Edwards

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Crisis intervention pilot programs for persons with mental illness

- 5. Summary:** Given available funding, the proposed legislation calls for the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to support the establishment of crisis intervention team pilot programs in areas of the state by January 1, 2010. The crisis intervention team (CIT) pilot programs shall assist law-enforcement officers in responding to crisis situations involving persons with mental illness, substance abuse problems, or both. By November 1, 2009, DCJS and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS) shall submit to the Joint Commission on Health Care a report outlining the plan for the program. DCJS and DMHMRSAS shall develop a training program for all persons involved in the crisis intervention team programs. Each crisis intervention team shall develop a protocol that permits law-enforcement officers to release from custody persons whom they encounter in crisis situations when the crisis intervention team has determined the person is sufficiently stable. By November 15th of 2009, 2010 and 2011, the departments shall evaluate and report to the Joint Commission on Health Care on the impact and effectiveness of the crisis intervention team pilot programs.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final (see Item 8)

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 395

- 8. Fiscal Implications:** According to DCJS, several pilot CIT programs have already been developed and tested over the years utilizing Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds. Although JAG funds were available in the past to fund CIT pilot programs, DCJS does not anticipate receiving any additional federal funds for the distinct purpose of creating new CIT programs.

For the purpose of this fiscal impact statement, the language in the proposed legislation *“utilizing such federal or state funding as may be available for this purpose...”* is interpreted to mean DCJS is not obligated to fulfill the requirements of §9.1-187 unless funding becomes available.

To date, there have been four CIT pilot programs established in the Commonwealth (Albemarle County, Mt. Rogers, Rockbridge Area Community Services and Virginia Beach). Funding to establish these CIT programs ranged from \$72,000 and \$166,000. Assuming an average cost of \$100,000 per CIT program, an estimated \$300,000 would be required to set up three pilot programs.

No funding was provided for these pilot programs in the proposed House and Senate budgets.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: DCJS, DMHMRSAS, localities

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 3/11/2009 dpb

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