

## Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB965

**House of Origin**     Introduced     Substitute     Engrossed  
**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute     Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Cline

3. **Committee:** Appropriations

4. **Title:** Governor's Child Safety Test.

5. **Summary:** The proposed legislation would permit each local school board to include the Governor's Child Safety Test as part of the program of physical fitness made available to all students. The test would be a program of instruction that will consist of at least eight hours of instruction per year on how to recognize, avoid, resist, and escape physical, sexual, and online threats and will result in a certificate signed by the Governor upon successful completion of the program. The bill would also increase the fee for the Internet Crimes Against Children Fund from \$10 to \$15 and makes changes to the uses of the fund's revenue. The Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Public Safety are to develop a curriculum for the test to be implemented by the local school boards.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** None.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The bill would authorize local school divisions to change the physical fitness program to include the Governor's Child Safety Test. The Department of Education would incur expenses in FY 2015 to develop the curriculum to be used by the local school divisions.

In FY 2013 the Internet Crimes Against Children Fund received approximately \$2.1 million in revenue. Assuming the number and types of convictions remains stable at 2013 levels, it is estimated that the proposed fee increase could generate approximately \$3.1 million in FY2015. The fee increase would provide DOE approximately \$135,000 for the cost of the new curriculum.

The other agencies receiving funding through the Fund would receive additional revenue from the fee increase, except for the Department of Social Services, which would lose roughly \$13,000 per year in support for the Virginia Child Protection Accountability System.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Local school divisions, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Virginia State Police

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** None.

**11. Other Comments:** The proposed legislation requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to make grants to fund full-time and part-time positions in local affiliate agencies. It is uncertain whether or not sufficient funds will be generated by this legislation to make and sustain grants in every locality. Previously, DCJS made grants to fund positions in un-served localities. However, due to insufficient funds to make and sustain grants to every un-served locality, the agency opted to instead issue competitive grants limited to 4 years. After the initial 4 year period, the localities assumed the cost of the ICAC position.

Currently, the agency provides grants to the two established ICAC programs operating in Virginia to leverage these organizations expertise and resources to ensure all localities in Virginia have access to ICAC services.

The bill is similar to SB 262.

**Date:** 2/4/2014 dpb/smc

**Document:** G:\GA\FIS 2014\HB965H1.doc