

Department of Planning and Budget

2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1802

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Villanueva

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: Penalty associated with neglect of signing medical certification of death

5. Summary: Provides that willfully failing, refusing, or neglecting to complete and sign a medical certification of death in a timely manner constitutes a Class 1 misdemeanor.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: Although insufficient data exists to determine the fiscal impact due to this proposal, the proposed legislation could result in an increase in the jail population since Class 1 misdemeanor outcomes result in sentences of up to 12 months in jail (and a fine up to \$2,500). Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds a significant portion 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's FY2013 Jail Cost Report (November 1, 2014), the estimated total state support for local and regional jails averaged \$30.54 per state inmate, per day in FY 2013. The Department of Health Professions has stated that this bill would have no impact on operations.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: None.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.