

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 2092

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

2. Patron: Peace

3. Committee: Senate Courts of Justice

4. Title: Committees on sexual and domestic violence

5. Summary:

The proposed legislation would establish the Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence as an advisory committee in the executive branch and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program Professional Standards Committee. The legislation would direct the Department of Criminal Justice Services to provide staff support to both bodies.

Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence

The membership of the committee would include the following:

- Directors of the following state agencies, or their designees:
 - Department of Social Services
 - Department of Criminal Justice Services
 - Department of Health
 - Department of Housing and Community Development
- Executive director of the Virginia sexual and domestic violence coalition
- One member of the Virginia Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules
- One member of the Virginia House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
- Chairman of the State Crime Commission
- Office of the Attorney General
- Six members appointed by the Governor, representing various statewide and local sexual and domestic violence organization and programs

The legislation directs the advisory committee to meet at least quarterly. Members of the advisory committee are not to receive compensation, but may be reimbursed for all necessary expenses. The bill stipulates that funding for the expenses of the meetings are to be provided from federal funds available to the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Under the provisions of the legislation, the advisory committee is to have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Provide guidance on the appropriate accreditation standards for sexual and domestic violence programs;
2. Review operation of local sexual and domestic violence programs and provide guidance on standards for accreditation of such programs;
3. Review statewide plans and make recommendations on needs and priorities for provision of local services to victims of sexual and domestic violence;
4. Advise on all matters related to federal funds received by the Commonwealth for crime prevention and crime victim assistance related to sexual and domestic violence;
5. Promote coordination among state agencies and local service providers to improve the identification of and response to sexual and domestic violence;
6. Develop a comprehensive plan for data collection on sexual and domestic violence;
7. Identify service gaps and demands related to responding to the needs of sexual and domestic violence programs; and
8. Make recommendations on improving efficiencies in the administration of grants to sexual and domestic violence programs.

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program Professional Standards Committee

The legislation directs the committee to establish voluntary accreditation standards and procedures by which local sexual and domestic violence programs can be systematically measured and evaluated. The voting membership of the committee would be comprised of twelve directors of local sexual and domestic violence programs, six appointed by the Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence and six by the Virginia sexual and domestic violence coalition.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.

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

8. Fiscal Implications:

DCJS currently has staff that provide technical assistance to local sexual and domestic violence programs and have general expertise concerning sexual and domestic violence who can provide staff assistance for these advisory committees. In addition, the proposed legislation authorizes DCJS to charge accreditation fees to support any administrative costs. There is insufficient information available at this time to project the extent to which fees will need to be charged.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Criminal Justice Services
Local sexual and domestic violence programs

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: Identical to SB 1094.

Date: 2/16/2015

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