

# Department of Planning and Budget

## 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB1301H1

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

**2. Patron:** McEachin

**3. Committee:** Courts of Justice

**4. Title:** Limitations on use of unmanned aircraft systems by public bodies; warrants required.

**5. Summary:** The substitute provides that no governmental agency or organization having jurisdiction over criminal or regulatory violations, including the Department of State Police, nor any local law-enforcement department, shall utilize an unmanned aircraft system except during the execution of a search warrant, or when an administrative or inspection warrant has been issued.

The warrant requirement does not apply to the Virginia National Guard while utilizing unmanned aircraft systems during training required maintaining readiness for its federal mission, when facilitating training for other U.S. Department of Defense units, or when such systems are utilized to support the Commonwealth. Further, the warrant requirement does not apply to certain search and rescue operations, law enforcement trainings, or if a person with legal authority consents to the warrantless search.

The substitute does not prohibit the use of unmanned aircraft systems for research and development conducted by institutions of higher education or other research organizations; neither has it prohibited the use of such systems for private, commercial, or recreational use. It also provides that evidence obtained through the utilization of an unmanned aircraft system in violation of the proposed legislation is not admissible in any criminal or civil proceeding.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

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

**8. Fiscal Implications** The substitute has no material impact on the Department of State Police and Virginia National Guard.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Compensation Board, Department of State Police, state and local governmental agency or organization having jurisdiction over criminal or regulatory violations, local law enforcement agencies, Commonwealth's Attorneys, Virginia National Guard, and courts.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 2/18/2015-SB1301H1.docx (LAJ)