

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1398

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

2. Patron: Bell, Richard P.

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: Hate crimes; acts against law-enforcement officers, firefighters, and EMS personnel.

5. Summary: Expands the definition of hate crime for the purpose of reporting hate crimes within the Department of State Police to include acts against persons employed as law-enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency medical services personnel.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate. See below.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of State Police (Department) maintains a central repository for the collection and analysis of hate crimes (Incident Based Reporting system) in Virginia. The Department is in the process of replacing its existing Incident Based Reporting (IBR) system. It will execute a contract with a vendor and the new IBR system is expected to be delivered in late 2017. Under the contract, it will take six to ten months to test, validate, and implement the new IBR system.

According to the Department, the proposed legislation requires new data entry fields that are not currently available in the existing IBR system. If changes are required to be made to the existing system before the implementation of the new IBR, the Department estimates that it may need additional resources. Specifically, it estimates that it will need to hire a contractor to make programmatic changes, test and validate the existing system. The Department indicates that it currently does not have an information technology staff with skills necessary to perform the changes required by the legislation. Assuming the proposed legislation becomes effective July 1, 2017, and the conservative delivery date of ten months from now for the new IBR system, the estimated cost for a contractor to upgrade the existing system could be up to \$68,000.

If the effective date of the proposed legislation is delayed until the new IBR system is delivered, there would be no fiscal impact to the Department due to the fact that the new system will have the capability to capture the data required by the proposed legislation.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of State Police.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.