

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2018 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB840 ER

**House of Origin**    ☐ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed

**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☒ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Bell, Robert B.

**3. Committee:** Passed Both Houses

**4. Title:** Confidentiality of victim telephone numbers and email addresses in criminal cases.

**5. Summary:** Upon request of a crime victim or a witness in a criminal prosecution of a violent felony, this bill prohibits law enforcement, the attorney for the Commonwealth, counsel for a defendant, and the Department of Corrections from disclosing any telephone number or email address of the victim or witness unless such disclosure is required by law, necessary for law-enforcement purposes, or permitted by the court. The bill also provides that during any criminal proceeding, upon motion of the defendant or the attorney for the Commonwealth, a judge may prohibit testimony as to any telephone number or email address of a victim or witness if the judge determines that this information is not material under the circumstances of the case.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See Item 8 below.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation provides that any telephone number or email address of a victim or witness are prohibited from being released under certain circumstances. The bill is not expected to have fiscal impact on state agencies.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Corrections, Attorney General's Office, Local law enforcement agencies.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** None

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission.