

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number: SB555**

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

**2. Patron: Mason**

**3. Committee: Passed Both Houses**

**4. Title: Barrier crimes; adult substance abuse and mental health treatment providers.**

**5. Summary:** Provides that a substance abuse or mental health treatment provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services may hire for compensated employment at an adult substance abuse or mental health treatment program a person who was convicted of burglary.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No**

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Minimal**

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This legislation would allow CSBs and DBHDS licensed providers of substance abuse or mental health treatment to hire persons who were convicted of burglary

Currently, there are twenty-one barrier crimes out of a list of 166 for which a person could have been convicted that would not prohibit them from employment within CSBs, behavioral health authorities or private providers of substance abuse or mental health treatment. If a conviction for burglary no longer prohibits such employment, the number of applicants with prior barrier crime convictions could increase. For reference, DBHDS processed 30 ineligible background checks during the last 12 months that could be eligible for screening under the proposed language.

There are three individuals in the Commonwealth of Virginia with the necessary training and credentials to conduct screenings to determine if such an applicant is at risk of re-offending or re-lapsing. Two out of the three screeners conduct screenings on behalf of other CSBs (except their home CSB) as well as private providers. The third screener is employed at a CSB but conducts screenings separate from the CSB. It is projected that the amount of staff resources necessary to process the projected increase in applications could be absorbed by current staff resources.

Additionally, there is some potential for an additional amount of revenue within DBHDS in the form of background check processing fees, which are paid by private providers to DBHDS to process criminal background checks, though it is anticipated to be very small. Though the screening is a separate evaluation to this criminal background check, the

potential widening of the applicant pool could result in more background checks being processed through DBHDS.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Community Services Boards, Private Providers of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

- 10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

- 11. Other Comments:** The substitute impact statement was revised to correctly reflect the number of barrier crimes that currently do not prohibit employment.