Department of Planning and Budget
2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1656

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

2. **Patron:** Cole

3. **Committee:** House Committee on Education

4. **Title:** Employment of school security officers by private or religious schools and permission to carry a firearm.

5. **Summary:** This bill expands existing law to permit private or religious schools to employ a school security officer and authorizes a school security officer at a private or religious school to carry a firearm in the performance of duties, subject to the same criteria for carrying a firearm in the performance of duties imposed on a school security officer employed by the local school board. This bill also updates the definition of school security officer in the assault and battery statute.

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

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate (see Item 8 below).

8. **Fiscal Implications:** Existing law requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to provide training to school security officers in public schools. This bill expands current law to allow private or religious schools to employ a school security officer. Under current law, DCJS provides training to school security officers. According to DCJS, it will need to (1) increase the number of trainings offered for school security officers, (2) research and develop curriculum that is tailored to private and religious schools, (3) establish an advisory committee of private and religious school personnel to assist in the development of the necessary training curriculum, and (4) make modifications to existing regulations pertaining to public school security officers to include private and religious schools.

   DCJS anticipates that creation of the new curriculum, based on similar prior activities, would cost less than $25,000. Additionally, DCJS estimates that training costs for private and religious school security officers would be approximately $24,000 per course. This figure includes instructor fees, course materials, and lodging, if necessary. However, this estimate is based on the current course offered to public school security officers and the actual cost for the course necessary as a result of the proposed legislation may be greater or lesser, depending on changes to the course curriculum. Therefore, DCJS reports that it is unable to estimate the fiscal impact of this bill because the applicable differences between public school security officers and private and religious school security officers is unknown at this time.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Criminal Justice Services.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. **Other Comments:** None