

## Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB2695

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

**2. Patron:** Levine

**3. Committee:** Senate Committee for Courts of Justice

**4. Title:** Crime victim rights and definition of a victim.

**5. Summary:** The proposed legislation expands the definition of "victim," for purposes of the Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act (§ 19.2-11.01 et seq.), to include (i) a person who has suffered physical, psychological, or economic harm as a direct result of the commission of identity theft, brandishing a firearm, indecent liberties by children, indecent exposure, using profane or threatening language over the telephone, or a delinquent act that would be one of such misdemeanor offenses if committed by an adult; (ii) a spouse or child of such a person; (iii) a parent or legal guardian of such a person who is a minor; (iv) a current or former foster parent or other person who has or has had physical custody of such a person who is a minor, for six months or more or for the majority of the minor's life; or (v) a spouse, parent, sibling, or legal guardian of such a person who is physically or mentally incapacitated.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** Currently, under Virginia law (§ 19.2-11.01) crime victims and witnesses are provided certain rights including services as appropriate, the opportunity to be heard by law-enforcement agencies, attorneys for the Commonwealth, corrections agencies and the judiciary at all critical stages of the criminal justice process to the extent permissible under law. Financial assistance and social services are also available to victims of crime through the Crime Victims Compensation Fund, which is administered by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission.

According to the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the proposed legislation is not expected to have an operational or fiscal impact on the agency. Additionally, the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission has indicated that the bill would have minimal impact on their operations as a result of expanding the definition of "victim." The impact on local service providers, other state agencies, and law enforcement agencies cannot be determined at this time.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Commonwealth's Attorneys, Department of Corrections, Courts, Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission, Office of the Attorney General, local and state law enforcement agencies, Department of Criminal

Justice Services, Commonwealth's Health and Human Resources, and local social service departments.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None