

Department of Planning and Budget

2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1024E

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

2. Patron: Roem

3. Committee: Senate Judiciary

4. Title: Department of State Police; establishment of cold case searchable database.

5. Summary: Provides that the Superintendent of State Police shall establish and maintain a searchable electronic database of cold cases, as defined in the bill, to assist law enforcement agencies in the development of information leading to the identification and arrest of persons who may have committed the crimes, or to persons who may have relevant information to solve the case. Such database shall be available to the public through the Department of State Police (VSP) official website. The bill requires that the database include: (i) the category of cold case, and in the case of a homicide or missing person, the name of the victim or missing person, unless disclosure is prohibited or restricted pursuant to § 19.2-11.2; (ii) the location where the crime was committed, where the person was last seen, or where the body was found, if known; (iii) the date and time the crime occurred, the person was last seen, or the body was found, if known; (iv) the name and contact information of the investigating law enforcement agency; (v) a brief summary of the crime or case; and (vi) any other information that the investigating law enforcement agency determines is appropriate. The bill provides that VSP and other submitting law enforcement agencies shall have the discretion to withhold such information, in whole or in part, from the database (a) as they deem necessary for investigative purposes, privacy protection, or any other lawful reason, or (b) upon request of the victim's or missing person's next of kin.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 426.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See below.

8. Fiscal Implications: This proposed legislation would require the Superintendent of the Department of State Police (VSP) to establish and maintain a searchable electronic database of cold cases, available through its official website. VSP estimates a one-time cost of \$110,000 to contract with a web design company to build the web-based database as required by the bill. VSP may also require a public relations and marketing specialist position to manage the web-build contract, and to manage the entries and content of the database; however, it is currently indeterminate the extent of the workload that would be generated by this proposed legislation. The cost of the position, including salary and benefits, is \$84,151 annually.

Any potential fiscal impact on local law enforcement agencies is indeterminate at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of State Police, Local law enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.