

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB845H2

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

2. Patron: Krizek

3. Committee: House Committee on Appropriations

4. Title: Definition of law-enforcement officer; certain employees of the Washington Metropolitan Area.

5. Summary: The proposed legislation adds special agents employed by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Office of the Inspector General to the definition of law-enforcement officer and grants such the same authority and power as sheriffs throughout the Commonwealth to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth. The proposed legislation also excludes special agents employed by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Office of the Inspector General from the definition of “deceased person” under the Line of Duty Act.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation adds special agents employed by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Office of the Inspector General (WMATA OIG) to the definition of law-enforcement officer and grants such the same authority and power as sheriffs throughout the Commonwealth to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth. The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is responsible for monitoring the training of over 22,000 law-enforcement officers. According to DCJS, the legislation is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the agency operation.

The amendment to this bill excludes special agents employed by WMATA OIG from the definition of “deceased person” for purposes of the Line of Duty Act (LODA). The Virginia Retirement System reports that, therefore, WMATA OIG special agents would be ineligible under LODA.

WMATA is not a state agency and does not have an appropriation in the budget, yet it receives state funding from the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund that is passed through to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission to support the operating and capital costs of WMATA.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.