

Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB1277

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

2. **Patron:** Newman

3. **Committee:** Transportation

4. **Title:** Repeal of reporting requirement; Department of Motor Vehicles and Supreme Court of Virginia.

5. **Summary:** This bill repeals an enactment clause that requires the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Supreme Court of Virginia to submit an annual report regarding the implementation of a program to allow the Department to collect certain fees and fines on behalf of a district or circuit court.

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** Chapter 228 of the 2015 Acts of Assembly permitted the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (OES) to enter into an agreement with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for the collection of court fines, costs, forfeitures, and penalties and court-ordered restitution at DMV customer service centers. DMV's ability to collect outstanding court costs is limited to accepting only payment in full. That is, DMV cannot accept partial payments, nor can the agency establish a payment plan. Thus, the focus of the partnership was on those paying court costs for the purpose of seeking reinstatement of their driver's licenses. With significant recent reforms to fines and costs collection and consequences, many Virginians potentially served by the OES/DMV partnership have already had their outstanding court debts detached from a loss of driving privileges.

DMV and OES are required to submit a joint report each December to the General Assembly, detailing their progress in implementing the legislation. Although permitting the receipt of unpaid fines, costs, forfeitures, penalties, or restitution by DMV is discretionary in nature, OES and DMV's annual reporting requirement is mandatory. To date, the partnership remains on hold due to resource demands associated with REAL ID implementation and the impact of COVID-19, in particular.

According to the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Supreme Court of Virginia, no fiscal impact is not anticipated from this bill.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Motor Vehicles, Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

11. Other Comments: None.