

Department of Planning and Budget 2001 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number** HB1745H1

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron** Thomas

3. **Committee** General Laws

4. **Title** Thermal Imaging Camera Advisory Board and Fund.

5. **Summary/Purpose:** This legislation proposes to amend §9-154 of the Code of Virginia to establish a non-reverting Thermal Imaging Camera Fund (VTIC) to assist local fire departments, other fire services organizations and local governments to purchase thermal imaging cameras. The bill also directs the Fire Services Board to appoint a nine member Thermal Imaging Camera Advisory Panel to assist the Department of Fire Programs in providing grants to these entities to purchase thermal imaging cameras. Panel members will consist of three members each from the following organizations: the State Fire Chief's Association, the Virginia Professional Firefighters Association, and the Virginia Firefighters Association appointed annually if funds are available in the VTIC fund.

6. **Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** Tentative. See Item 8.

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** Yes. Item 471.

8. **Fiscal implications:** The fiscal implications of this legislation are uncertain. The legislation creates a special non-reverting fund and an advisory panel to assist the Department of Fire Programs in providing grants to localities. The legislation further states that the Fund will consist of such funds as appropriated by the General Assembly for this purpose and from such gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and other funds as may be received on its behalf. However, at this time there are no balances in the Fund. This agency has not historically received a significant amount of gifts or donations. Therefore, without additional information regarding the level of funding the General Assembly may provide, the agency is unable to accurately estimate the level of interest by localities or estimate the workload resulting from administering the Fund.

9. **Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Localities and Department of Fire Programs.

10. **Technical amendment necessary:** No.

11. **Other comments:** None.

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cc: Secretary of Public Safety