

Department of Planning and Budget

2001 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB847

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

2. Patron Couric

3. Committee Passed both houses.

4. Title Threats

5. Summary/Purpose:

Currently, it is a Class 6 felony to write and send a letter or other communication to someone threatening to kill or do bodily injury to that person or someone in his family. It is a Class 1 misdemeanor to threaten orally any employee of a school while that employee is on school property or engaged in a school-sponsored activity. This proposal would make the following changes:

?? A written threat of death or bodily harm communicated to a person, which creates a reasonable apprehension of death or bodily harm on the part of the person threatened, would be Class 6 felony.

?? A written threat of death or bodily harm on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event, which would create a reasonable apprehension of death or bodily injury, would be a Class 6 felony. In this case, the person or persons who were the subject of the threat would not actually have to receive the threat.

6. Fiscal Impact: See Item No. 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: None.

8. Fiscal implications:

Due to the lack of sufficient data, the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission has stated that the impact of this proposal, pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, on the number of additional prison beds needed cannot be determined.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Corrections

10. Technical amendment necessary: None.

11. Other comments: Identical to HB 197.

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cc: Secretary of Public Safety

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