

Department of Planning and Budget

2002 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number** HB242

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

2. **Patron** Drake

3. **Committee** House Court of Justice

4. **Title** Public defender's office.

5. **Summary/Purpose:**
Establishes a public defender's office in the City of Norfolk and any other locality in which it is cost-effective.

6. **Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** Final

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2002-03	1,560,175	34	GF
2003-04	2,039,084	34	GF

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** No

8. **Fiscal implications:** According to the Public Defender Commission, establishing a public defender's office in the City of Norfolk would require \$1,329,435 and 34 positions in fiscal year 2003. In addition, \$230,740 would be required in fiscal year 2003 for startup costs for a total of \$1,560,175. Of the 34 positions, 10 would be filled in October with the remaining 24 being phased in 8 at a time, quarterly. It is estimated that \$2,039,084 would be required for fiscal year 2004. Some of these costs will be offset by reductions in Criminal Fund costs. However, the extent of the offset cannot be determined at this time. The bill also authorizes establishment of offices where "cost-effective." Additional funds would be needed to accomplish this objective but until such jurisdictions are identified, it is not possible to project the costs.

9. **Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Public Defender Commission

10. **Technical amendment necessary:** No

11. **Other comments:** HB242 provides for establishment of public defender offices in Norfolk and "any other locality in which it is cost-effective." However, HB242 does not provide any guidelines on what constitutes cost-effectiveness.

Date: 01/14/00/TMB

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