

Department of Planning & Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB 1901

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron D. Albo

3. Committee House Committee for Courts of Justice

4. Title Preliminary hearing for persons accused of a felony

5. Summary/Purpose: Provides a person who is arrested on a charge of a felony or convicted by a grand jury on a charge of a felony prior to arrest shall be entitled to a preliminary hearing given there is reasonable grounds to believe that the person committed the offense.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: Indeterminant (see Item 8)

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, Item 33

8. Fiscal implications: Currently, a preliminary hearing is available only when the person is arrested on a charge and not when they are indicted. According to the Supreme Court, if this legislation is passed, there will be an unknown increase in the number of preliminary hearings in district courts around the Commonwealth, and a potential for increase court operating costs.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Courts

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: None

Date/Initials: 01/12/07 / RMT

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