

Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 973

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

2. Patron: Bell, Robert B.

3. Committee: House Courts of Justice

4. Title: Increased penalties for sex crimes

5. Summary:

Generally, under current law, anyone convicted of rape, forcible sodomy, or object sexual penetration against a victim under 13 years old is subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 25 years in prison. If the offense is the offender's second or subsequent violent sexual offense, the law requires a life sentence.

The proposed legislation would impose a mandatory minimum sentence of life imprisonment for the first conviction of rape, forcible sodomy, or object sexual penetration if the victim is less than 13 years old.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 389. The Governor has submitted an executive amendment to the budget bill providing the appropriation for the fiscal impact of this legislation.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2013	\$1,711,348	General
2014	\$0	
2015	\$0	
2016	\$0	
2017	\$0	
2018	\$0	

8. Fiscal Implications:

Pursuant to §30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission estimates a fiscal impact of \$1,711,348 (the highest annual cost over the next six years). The amount is based on the projection that the legislation will result in 62 additional inmates being incarcerated in prison.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Corrections

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: Identical to SB 436.

Date: 1/18/2012

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