

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 730

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Lingamfelter

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: Transfer of certain duties and responsibilities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security

5. Summary:

The proposed legislation would transfer the responsibility for overseeing and coordinating efforts to strengthen homeland security from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security to the Secretary of Public Safety. The secretariats would be renamed the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs and the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, respectively.

In addition to transferring the oversight of homeland security between secretariats, the proposed legislation includes additional homeland security-related duties for the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security that are not currently set out in law. These are:

- Ensure, consistent with the National Incident Management System, that the Commonwealth implements a continuous cycle of planning. To accomplish this, the secretary is directed to assign responsibility among state agencies and local jurisdictions “to effect the highest state of readiness” for coping with man-made and natural disasters;
- Ensure and monitor the development, maintenance, and implementation of comprehensive and measurable homeland security strategy for the Commonwealth, including the integration of that strategy into the Secure Commonwealth Plan;
- Develop the annual Commonwealth Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Report; and
- Ensure that plans for protecting public critical infrastructure are developed and implemented by state agencies and local jurisdictions.

The proposed legislation also adds the following responsibilities for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management:

- Assisting in the development of state and local disaster plans and monitoring the status and quality of those plans annually to ensure they are feasible and can be implemented with available resources, and

- Monitoring, reviewing, and evaluating on a cyclical basis throughout the year all shelter, evacuation, traffic, and refuge of last resort plans to ensure they are feasible and can be implemented with available resources.

The proposed legislation would also expand the responsibilities of the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs to include “issues of mutual concern to the Commonwealth and the armed forces of the United States, including quality of life issues unique to Virginia’s active duty military personnel and their families.” These issues would include educational opportunities for military children, federal impact aid, preparedness, social service needs, and the possible expansion and growth of military facilities in the Commonwealth.

Finally, the proposed legislation would repeal a requirement that the Secretary of Public Safety establish a public safety information exchange program with those states that share a border with Canada or Mexico and are willing to participate in the exchange.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Items 376, 393, 413, and 457

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8 below.

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2015	\$339,088	General
2016	\$262,208	General
2017	\$262,208	General
2018	\$262,208	General
2019	\$262,208	General
2020	\$262,208	General

8. Fiscal Implications:

The proposed legislation would have a fiscal impact on several agencies. The agency most affected would be the Department of Emergency Management (VDEM). To properly carry out the additional responsibilities imposed on the agency by the legislation, the agency would need five additional planners. With these positions, the agency would have a planner in each region to work with localities and state agencies in developing and evaluation their disaster plans. The annual cost of these positions would be \$353,585. Because it would take the agency some time to recruit for and fill these positions, the full annual cost would not be incurred in FY 2015, when the funding would first be available. However, there would be onetime costs incurred by the agency in FY 2015, such as the purchase of vehicles. The cost for the first year is estimated to be \$430,465.

These costs for VDEM would be partially offset by savings realized with the Department of State Police. In 2011, the General Assembly enacted legislation that required the

Secretary of Public Safety to establish a public safety information exchange program with those states that share a border with Canada or Mexico and would be will be participate in such an exchange. The Department of State Police was appropriated \$91,377 to implement the requirement. The proposed legislation would repeal that provision. With the repeal of the requirement to establish the exchange, the State Police will no longer have that cost and will not need the appropriation. The fiscal impact shown in Item 7 includes a reduction of \$91,377 from the appropriation for the Department of State Police.

The other agencies most affected by the legislation would be the two secretariats. There may need to be some positions and appropriations transferred between them to accommodate the shifting of responsibilities. The proposed legislation would authorize the Governor to make these transfers administratively.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Secretary of Public Safety
Secretary of Veterans Services and Homeland Security
Department of Emergency Management
Department of State Police

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 2/6/2014

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