

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1

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

2. Patron: Comstock

3. Committee: House Appropriations

4. Title: Sexual and Domestic Violence Subfund; funding of sexual and domestic violence prevention, etc.

5. Summary: Creates a new subfund in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund to be known as the Sexual and Domestic Violence Subfund. The Subfund consists of all funds, from whatever source, in the Commonwealth related to sexual and domestic violence prevention, intervention, and prosecution. The bill also directs the Workers' Compensation Commission to appoint a coordinator to administer and oversee the use of the funds.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary

8. Fiscal Implications: This proposed legislation creates a special subfund under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund ("Fund") called the Sexual and Domestic Violence Subfund. The Fund would be administered by the Virginia Worker's Compensation Commission (WCC) with daily operations managed by a fund coordinator. The purpose of the proposed subfund is to provide funds for sexual and domestic violence prevention, intervention and prosecution in the Commonwealth, unless otherwise required by state or federal law to be directed elsewhere.

Currently, the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) administers the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund which provides grant funding to local programs for services to victims of sexual and domestic violence, intervention services, and funding for prosecution of sexual assault and domestic violence cases. DCJS is currently designated the State Administering Agency (SAA) for federal funds coming into Virginia that are directed to provide funding for services and support to victims of crime.

Under the proposed legislation, the WCC would be required to appoint a coordinator to administer and oversee the use of any funds deposited into the subfund. According to the WCC, it estimates 3 positions and \$229,200 the first year and \$229,200 the second year would be needed to administer the subfund. This cost includes \$9,000 for equipment and \$10,000 for travel and training. The positions would be tasked with grant application review and award, compliance monitoring and federal/state financial reporting. WCC envisions

recovering all or a portion of the estimated costs from the grant sources as administrative costs.

If this legislation passes, there are 3.5 positions at DCJS that would be impacted.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Worker's Compensation Commission, Department of Criminal Justice Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: It may be helpful to clarify the distinction between the proposed Sexual and Domestic Violence subfund and the existing Virginia Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Victim Fund.

11. Other Comments: Companion bill SB4

RMT