

# Department of Planning and Budget

## 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB730

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

**2. Patron:** Marsden

**3. Committee:** Senate Committee for Courts of Justice

**4. Title:** Juvenile offenders, certain; sentence modification procedure.

**5. Summary:** Provides a mechanism for a person convicted of a non-homicide offense committed on or after January 1, 1995, while the person was a juvenile, and who is sentenced to life or a term of confinement that would be completed after his 60th birthday, to petition for a modification of sentence at age 35 or after serving 20 years of the sentence, whichever occurs later.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary (see Item #8)

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation would affect a relatively few inmates. According to the Department of Corrections (DOC), there were 13 offenders as of December 31, 2014, committed to its facilities that had been sentenced for a crime committed while a juvenile to either a life sentence or a sentence that would not be completed until they were more than 60 years old. However six of these 13 offenders also had convictions for other serious felony offenses committed when they were 18 years old or older.

According to the Department of Corrections, at least seven, but at most only 13, offenders currently incarcerated could be eligible to petition the court for a sentence modification at age 35 or after serving 20 years, whichever came later.

According to the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (OES), the bill could result in additional hearings if persons seek abatement of their sentence under the provisions of this bill. However, OES believes the fiscal impact of this bill can be accommodated with existing agency resources.

According to the Compensation Board, the bill may have an indeterminate fiscal impact on Commonwealth's attorneys' offices.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Corrections, Commonwealth Attorneys, and Courts

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None