

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB736

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

2. Patron: Howell

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: Courthouse and courtroom security; increases assessment.

5. Summary: Increases from \$10 to \$20 the maximum amount a local governing body may assess against a convicted defendant as part of the costs in a criminal or traffic case in district or circuit court to fund courthouse security.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposal is not expected to have a fiscal impact on state funding, but is expected to generate significant revenue for localities. The Office of the Executive Secretary (“OES”) of the Virginia Supreme Court receives a monthly report from General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts indicating the amount of revenue collected from such fees. According to the report provided to the OES, in fiscal year 2014, localities received \$15.2 million in revenue from courthouse/courtroom security fees. Assuming the same number of cases each year and doubling the fee from \$10 to \$20 as proposed in the legislation, it is expected that the local revenue generated each year would increase from \$15.2 million to \$30.4 million.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Sheriffs’ offices, clerks of the court, treasurers.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: Identical to HB 1388.