

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB128

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

2. Patron: Hope

3. Committee: Militia, Police and Public Safety

4. Title: Weapons; possession prohibited in state legislative buildings, penalty.

5. Summary: The bill prohibits the possession of weapons in legislative buildings. The bill provides that the Capitol Police shall conduct screenings of any person entering such building. Anyone violating this requirement is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor. The prohibition does not apply to law-enforcement officers.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: None.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Division of Capitol Police (DCP) does not anticipate a fiscal impact on the agency from this bill. The required screenings are already being performed by DCP in the buildings specified by the bill. No quantifiable costs were identified by the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission in review of potential impacts by the Class 1 misdemeanor clause. It should be noted, however, that anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates in jail could result from this proposal. Ultimately, the presiding judge will decide if there is to be any time served in jail; however, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2015), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$32.24 per inmate, per day in FY 2014.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Division of Capitol Police; Local jails.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.