Department of Planning and Budget
2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB25ER

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

2. **Patron:** Habeeb

3. **Committee:** Passed both Houses.

4. **Title:** Firefighting equipment; penalty for tampering with, etc.

5. **Summary:** The bill provides that a person who tampers or otherwise interferes with the operation of any equipment used for fighting fires or for protecting property or human life by a fire department or any emergency medical services vehicle is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Should a person be convicted under §§ 18.2-79, 18.2-80, 18.2-137, 18.2-146, or 18.2-150 of the Code of Virginia, or a similar charge, any charge under this statute shall be dismissed.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary**: None.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See Item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** 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 person 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 $32.34 per inmate, per day in FY 2014.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Courts, local and regional jails, and Compensation Board.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** None.

11. **Other Comments:** None.

Date: 3/31/2016- HB25ER.docx(NCS)