

Department of Planning and Budget
2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 572

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

2. Patron: Albo

3. Committee: Senate Courts of Justice

4. Title: Fines and court costs

5. Summary:

The proposed legislation would make several changes in the statutes regarding criminal fines, as follows:

- Interest—Current law provides that interest on any fine or court costs for a criminal offense would not accrue while the offender was incarcerated for that offense. The proposed legislation would expand the period of no accumulation of interest to include any period of incarceration and provide a procedure for an individual to request the waiver of interest that accrued while he was incarcerated.
- Installment payments—Currently, a court may authorize deferred or installment payments for fines, restitution, forfeiture, and court costs pursuant to guidelines established by the court. The proposed legislation would require any payment agreement be consistent with the Rules of Supreme Court of Virginia.
- Suspension of driver's license—Under current law, if an offender fails to pay his fine or court costs or fails to make his ordered installment payments, the court shall order the suspension of the offender's driver's license. The proposed legislation would apply the general statute of limitations on the authority to suspend the driver's license. The effect would be that a driver's license could not be suspended if twenty or more years elapsed from the date of the offense for which the fine and costs had been imposed by a circuit court; in the case of fines and costs imposed by a district court, the period would be ten years or more.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8 below.

8. Fiscal Implications:

Revenue from criminal fines is placed into the Literary Fund. Revenue from costs assessed for those convicted of crimes is deposited into the general fund, as well as various

special funds. The proposed legislation could result in a decrease in revenue for these funds, but there is not enough information available to project the amount of any decrease.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court
Committee on District Courts
Circuit and district courts
Department of Motor Vehicles

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 2/16/2016

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