

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB791

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

2. **Patron:** Chase

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

4. **Title:** Concealed handgun permits; fee for processing.

5. **Summary:** Makes the \$10 fee that the clerk of court is now required to charge for processing a concealed handgun permit application or issuing a concealed handgun permit discretionary with the clerk.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** Under present law, Va. Code § 18.2-308.03, circuit court clerks are required to charge a fee of \$10 for the processing of a concealed handgun application or issuing of a permit. The proposed bill would make the fee discretionary to each circuit court clerk; however, it is not possible to determine how many clerks will elect to forgo the fee.

Circuit court clerk offices receive a general fund appropriation through the Compensation Board to reimburse localities for Clerks' expenses. The fees collected by clerks are deposited into the state general fund. When the fees collected by a clerk exceed the amount the Compensation Board provides to support office operation costs, the excess of the fee amounts collected (actual collections minus funding for operations provided by the Compensation Board) is split between the Commonwealth (2/3) and the local government (1/3).

Each clerk decision to forgo the fee will result in a reduction to state and/or local revenues. Based on best available information, the fiscal impact to the general fund could be as much as \$847,000; however, the exact impact cannot be quantified.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Compensation Board, Courts, Virginia State Police and circuit court clerks.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. **Other Comments:** None