

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB511

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: Bell, Robert B.

3. Committee: Committee Referral Pending

4. Title: Child abuse or neglect; sex offenders; investigations; reports to law enforcement.

5. Summary: Adds the complaint that a child has been left alone in the same dwelling with a person to whom the child is not related by blood or marriage and who has been convicted of a sexually violent offense against a minor to the list of complaints of suspected child abuse or neglect upon receipt of which a local department of social services is required to notify the local attorney for the Commonwealth and the local law-enforcement agency. The bill also adds such a complaint to the list of complaints that a local department that has been designated as a child-protective services differential response agency by the Department of Social Services must investigate.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill does not have a fiscal impact. The legislation adds to an existing list of specific types of child abuse complaints that must be reported by local departments of social services (LDSS) to local law enforcement and the Commonwealth's Attorney within two hours of receipt. The proposed addition to the list of offenses that must be reported within two hours codifies existing practice. Additionally, the bill would require the LDSS to perform an investigation instead of a family assessment. According to the agency, it takes local staff approximately the same amount of time to complete an investigation as it takes to complete a family assessment, therefore this requirement will not have an impact on workload for state or local departments of social services.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Social Services, local departments of social services, local law enforcement agencies, Commonwealth's Attorneys

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.