

Department of Planning and Budget

2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB840

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: Courts of Justice

4. Title: Confidentiality of victim telephone numbers and email addresses in criminal cases.

5. Summary: Upon request of a crime victim or a witness in a criminal prosecution of a violent felony, this bill prohibits law enforcement, the attorney for the Commonwealth, counsel for a defendant, and the Department of Corrections from disclosing any telephone number or email address of the victim or witness unless such disclosure is required by law, necessary for law-enforcement purposes, or permitted by the court. The bill also provides that during any criminal proceeding, upon motion of the defendant or the attorney for the Commonwealth, a judge may prohibit testimony as to any telephone number or email address of a victim or witness if the judge determines that this information is not material under the circumstances of the case.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation provides that any telephone number or email address of a victim or witness are prohibited from being released under certain circumstances. The bill is not expected to have fiscal impact on state agencies.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Corrections, Attorney General's Office, Local law enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None

11. Other Comments: This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission.