

Department of Planning and Budget

2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1501S1

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

2. Patron: Carrico

3. Committee: Senate Finance

4. Title: Capital murder of law enforcement officers or fire marshals

5. Summary: The proposed bill provides any person who commits a capital murder offense against law-enforcement officer, a fire marshal or deputy or assistant fire marshal when such fire marshal or deputy or assistant fire marshal has been granted police powers, an auxiliary police officer, an auxiliary deputy sheriff, or any law-enforcement officer of another state or the United States having the power to arrest for a felony under the laws of such state or the United States will be punished by no less than a mandatory minimum term of confinement for life, if the offender is 18 years of age or older at the time of the offense.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary (see Item 8)

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed bill would require any offender age 18 years of age or older who commits capital murder against a law enforcement officer or fire marshal to be punished by no less than a mandatory minimum term of confinement for life. As drafted, the bill is not expected to have a material fiscal impact on Commonwealth's Attorneys or the Department of Corrections. According to the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, the proposed legislation is not expected to increase the state-responsible (prison) bed space needs of the Commonwealth during the six-year window specified by § 30-19.1:4 for legislative impact statements. All offenders convicted of capital murder receive sentences in excess of six years. Therefore, any potential impact associated with a mandatory life sentence would occur beyond the six-year forecast window required by § 30-19.1:4.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Courts, Commonwealth's Attorneys', Department of Corrections and local and regional jails.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None