

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB635

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

2. Patron: LaRock

3. Committee: Transportation

4. Title: Traffic incident management vehicles.

5. Summary: Adds traffic incident management vehicles, defined in the bill and including vehicles operated pursuant to the Department of Transportation Safety Service Patrol program or pursuant to a contract with the Department of Transportation that includes traffic incident management services, operated by persons who meet certain training requirements to a list of vehicles exempt from certain traffic regulations at or en route to the scene of a traffic accident or similar incident. The bill also allows such vehicles to be equipped with sirens and flashing red or red and white secondary warning lights.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2020	0	0	
2021	\$356,000	0	NGF
2022	\$462,000	0	NGF
2023	\$462,000	0	NGF
2024	\$462,000	0	NGF

8. Fiscal Implications: The language in this bill is permissive. If the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) opts to equip its vehicles with flashing red lights as allowed by this legislation, an initial cost of \$356,000 would include a minimum light package for all vehicles as well as the emergency vehicle operating course. The Year 2 onward costs of \$462,000 per year include the formal retrofit of vehicles and recurring training. This cost is distributed across three years. The emergency vehicle operating training will occur indefinitely due to the necessity of recertification. These costs would have to be covered by redirecting existing resources from other priorities.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia State Police, Virginia Department of Fire Programs, Virginia Fire Chiefs Association

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar to SB644.

