

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1003H1

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

2. Patron: Chafin, A. B.

3. Committee: House

4. Title: Computer crimes; penalty.

5. Summary: The proposed legislation provides that if any person, who does not intend to receive any direct or indirect benefit, sends an electronically transmitted communication containing a false representation intended to cause another person to spend money and such false representation causes such person to spend money, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The authorized punishment for Class 1 misdemeanors is confinement in jail for not more than twelve months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both. However, there is not enough information available to reliably estimate the increase in jail population or the amount of fines that would be collected as a result of this proposal. However, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth currently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local-responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds a large portion of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. According to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2019), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$34.07 per inmate, per day in FY 2018.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: None

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None