

Department of Planning and Budget

2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB534

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: Vogel

3. Committee: Senate Committee on the Judiciary

4. Title: Hope Card Program

5. Summary: The proposed bill requires the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to develop and implement a Hope Card Program for the issuance of a Hope Card to any person who has been issued a protective order pursuant to § 19.2-152.10 (*protective order*) or 16.1-279.1 (*protective order in cases of family abuse*) by any general district court, juvenile and domestic relations court, or circuit court.

The bill provides that a Hope Card issued pursuant to the Program shall be durable, plastic, wallet-sized and contain essential information about the protective order, such as identifying information and characteristics of the person subject to the protective order, the issuance and expiration date of the protective order, the terms of the protective order, and the names of any other persons protected by the protective order.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 39

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

8. Fiscal Implications: Currently, the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (“OES”) operates a grant-funded Hope Program in selected juvenile and domestic relations districts courts around the Commonwealth as a part of a piloted initiative. The proposed legislation would expand the existing program to cover any person who has been issued a “permanent” protective order by any general district court, juvenile and domestic relations court, or circuit court and who requests a Hope card.

According to OES, the total estimated cost to court system to implement the bill is \$81,520 per year. Part of this funding (\$69,511 salary and benefits) will go toward creating a full-time position for the Hope Card Program administrator, and the remaining (\$12,009) would support the administrative and training needs of this position.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Courts

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None