

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB543ER

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

2. Patron: Edwards

3. Committee: Passed both houses.

4. Title: Firearms shows; mandatory background check.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of State Police (VSP) to perform a criminal history record check on any prospective purchaser or transferee prior to the completion of a firearm transaction at any firearms show held in the Commonwealth. Current law requires VSP to be present at every firearms show to perform criminal history record checks, but does not require such checks to be performed on transactions between private parties unless requested by any party involved in the transaction.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See below.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would require the Department of State Police (VSP) to perform criminal history record checks on all prospective purchasers or transferees at any firearms show in the Commonwealth. Currently, such checks are optional if either party requests it for transactions between private parties. According to VSP, the agency already has a process in place to accommodate background checks for private sales of firearms at gun shows. The agency believes that its current staffing level within the Firearms Transaction Center (FTC) for personnel that perform these checks is adequate to absorb the increased workload resulting from this bill, and no fiscal impact is expected on agency operations.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of State Police.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.