

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB691

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:** Obenshain

**3. Committee:** Senate Committee on Education and Health

**4. Title:** School Guardian Fund and Program; establishment.

**5. Summary:** Establishes the School Guardian Fund and requires the Virginia Center for School and Campus safety to establish and administer the School Guardian Program for the purpose of providing grants from the Fund on a competitive basis to school boards for the appointment or hiring of school guardians, which the bill defines as any individual, including any school resource officer, school security officer, or other school board employee, who is hired or appointed by a school board to carry a firearm on school property during normal school hours for school security purposes. The bill requires each such school guardian to receive an annual stipend of \$500 for the performance of his duties. The bill requires the Center to (i) establish training and screening standards for such school guardians that include, at minimum, a requirement to receive a psychological screening and a drug screening prior to the commencement of school guardian duties and (ii) adopt such other rules and policies as it deems necessary for the administration of the Program, including rules and policies for grant applications and awards.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 406.

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation creates the School Guardian Fund (Fund) and a new grant program for the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to administer. The Fund would be non-reverting fund to be supported by gifts, donations, grants, bequests and other funds received and paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. It also requires DCJS to establish training and screening standards for individuals who are appointed as school guardians, and to develop rules and policies as necessary for the administration of the program. DCJS reports that these new responsibilities would require a dedicated position to coordinate the development of the training standards and to administer the grant program. Based on similar positions at DCJS, the agency estimates the salary such a position to be approximately \$65,000 annually. DCJS reports that the total cost of the position, including benefits and administrative overhead is \$113,790.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Criminal Justice Services; local schools; Treasurer; Comptroller.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.