

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2021 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB1773

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

**2. Patron:** Freitas

**3. Committee:** Public Safety

**4. Title:** Carrying a concealed handgun; permit not required.

**5. Summary:** Allows any person who is otherwise eligible to obtain a concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun without a permit anywhere he may lawfully carry a handgun openly within the Commonwealth. The bill also removes the requirement that such individuals demonstrate competency with a handgun prior to receiving a permit under subsection B of § 18.2-308.02 related to demonstration of competence.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** None.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** Currently, under existing law, the clerk, local law enforcement and the Department of State Police (VSP) may each charge a fee for processing an application for a concealed handgun permit not to exceed \$50. The court collects \$10 for the processing of an application or issuing of a permit, the local law enforcement agency may charge a fee of not more than \$35 to cover the cost of conducting criminal history investigation, and VSP may charge a fee not to exceed \$5 to cover the cost associated with processing the application. For nonresident applications, VSP accepts and processes each application. There is a \$100 fee associated with each nonresident application to cover the cost of the background check and issuance of the permit. All fees collected by VSP in the concealed handgun program are deposited into the general fund.

According to data from VSP, approximately 179,513 resident permits and 7,482 nonresident permits were processed in calendar year 2020. Total fees collected in 2020 for both resident and nonresident permits was approximately \$1,018,760, which was subsequently deposited into the general fund. The number of individuals who would be exempt from obtaining a permit under this proposal is unknown, therefore, the estimated revenue loss to the general fund cannot be determined at this time.

The proposed legislation is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the operations of VSP. The impact on local clerks and local enforcement agencies cannot be determined at this time.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of State Police, Local law enforcement agencies, Clerks of Court.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.