

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB813

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

**2. Patron:** Morrissey

**3. Committee:** Judiciary

**4. Title:** Virginia High Speed Chase Alert Program.

**5. Summary:** Provides that the Virginia State Police (VSP) must develop policies for the establishment of uniform standards for the creation of High Speed Chase Alert Programs throughout the Commonwealth. The bill requires VSP to (i) inform local law enforcement officials of the policies and procedures to be used for the Programs; (ii) assist in determining the geographic scope of a particular alert; and (iii) establish procedures and standards by which a local law enforcement agency must verify that a motor vehicle pursuit involving a law enforcement officer is a high speed chase and must report such information to VSP.

Upon receipt of a notice of a high speed chase from a law enforcement agency, VSP must confirm the accuracy of the information and provide assistance in the activation of the alert program as the investigation dictates. According to the provisions of the bill, high speed chase alerts may be local, regional, or statewide. The initial decision to make a local alert must be at the discretion of the local law enforcement agency. Prior to issuing such an alert, the local law enforcement official must confer with VSP and provide information about the high speed chase. The decision to issue a regional or statewide alert must be at the discretion of VSP. Where appropriate, VSP must send the High Speed Chase Alert to Virginia's emergency alert system. Participating media may issue alerts at designated intervals as specified by the Program. The alert must include the high speed chase report information and any other such information as the relevant law enforcement agency deems appropriate. Any such alert must be canceled under the terms of the High Speed Chase Alert Agreement, as defined in the bill. The local law enforcement agency that was last in pursuit must notify VSP immediately upon the conclusion of the high speed chase.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 426.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See below.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This proposed legislation would require the Department of State Police (VSP) to develop policies to establish High Speed Chase Alert Programs, in coordination with local law enforcement agencies who elect to participate in the program, throughout the Commonwealth. VSP currently maintains and supports a statewide system that broadcasts notifications concerning missing abducted children (Amber Alerts), missing senior citizens (Senior Alerts) and Critically Missing Adults. According to VSP, to implement the proposed

legislation, the agency would need one program support technician to manage the program, coordinate with local law enforcement agencies, and provide an immediate response when a High Speed Chase Alert is activated. The cost of this position is \$73,186 annually, which includes salary, benefits, and information technology equipment costs. VSP also estimates it would need \$5,530 the first year in furniture costs. VSP's total anticipated costs for this proposal are \$78,716 the first year and \$73,186 the second year. However, it is currently indeterminate the extent of the workload that would be generated by the proposed legislation, and how many local law enforcement agencies would elect to participate in the program. According to VSP, during calendar year 2018, the agency initiated 323 vehicle pursuits. Of those, 181 concluded within five minutes, 80 concluded between five and 10 minutes, and only seven pursuits exceeded 30 minutes in duration.

Under the provisions of the bill, local law enforcement agencies are not required to participate in the High Speed Chase Alert Program. Any potential fiscal impact on local law enforcement agencies that voluntarily choose to participate in the program cannot be determined at this time.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.