

Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1119

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

2. Patron: Reeves

3. Committee: Judiciary

4. Title: Law-enforcement agencies; body-worn camera systems.

5. Summary: The proposed bill creates a special non-reverting fund to be known as the Body-Worn Camera System Fund (“Fund”) to assist state and local law enforcement agencies with the costs of purchasing, operating, and maintaining body-worn camera systems.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8 below.

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the bill requires the agency to administer the newly created Fund and adopt guidelines to make funds available to state and local law enforcement agencies for the purpose of assisting them with the costs of purchasing, operating, and maintaining body-worn camera systems.

If the Fund receives an appropriation, DCJS reports the agency will need one additional program coordinator/grant monitor position to accomplish the requirements of the bill. Based on similar positions within the agency, DCJS estimates the cost for this position would be \$113,790 annually (\$65,000 salary plus benefits and fringe).

Currently, Item 406.S.1 of Chapter 56, 2020 Acts of Assembly, Special Session I includes \$6,402,200 for DCJS in the first year from the general fund to make one-time grants to law enforcement agencies with primary law enforcement duties, including but not limited to state agencies, local agencies and colleges and universities, for the purpose of purchasing, operating, and maintaining body-worn camera systems. Item 460.S.2. also provides \$56,895 the first year and \$113,790 the second year in general fund support for a coordinator position at DCJS to manage the Body Worn Camera Grant. According to DCJS, assuming the funding for the position remains in the agency’s base, this funding is sufficient to allow the agency to comply with the provisions of this bill, and no additional funding is necessary.

According to the Department of State Police (VSP), there is no anticipated fiscal impact on agency operations as a result of the provisions of this bill. Any potential impact on local law and other state law enforcement agencies is indeterminate at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Criminal Justice Services, state and local law enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.