Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number:	HB711ER					
	House of Origin		Introduced		Substitute		Engrossed
	Second House		In Committee		Substitute	\boxtimes	Enrolled
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- 2. Patron: Keam
- 3. Committee: Passed both houses
- 4. Title: Writ of vacatur; victims of sex trafficking; payment of fees or costs.
- **5. Summary:** The enrolled bill provides that a petitioner for a writ of vacatur for victims of sex trafficking shall not be required to pay any fees or costs for filing such petition if the petitioner is found to be unable to pay them pursuant to § 17.1-606.
- 6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Indeterminate
- 7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final (see Item 8 below).
- 8. Fiscal Implications: Current law requires the clerk of the court to refund costs paid by a petitioner if the circuit court enters a writ of vacatur for the petitioner. The proposed legislation would expand this provision to excuse a petitioner from paying fees or costs for filing a petition if the Court determines that the petitioner is unable to pay these costs pursuant to § 17.1-606, regardless of whether the circuit court enters a writ of vacatur for the petitioner or not. Based on data from the Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia, fees range from about \$82 to \$91 per petition and vary by locality. Any potential fiscal impact on the Courts is indeterminate.
- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Courts
- 10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No
- 11. Other Comments: None