

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2236H1

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☒ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Hayes

3. Committee: House Committee on Appropriations

4. Title: Secured Schools Program and Fund

5. Summary: The bill amends § 9.1-102 (Powers and duties of the Board and the Department) to require the Department of Criminal Justice Services (“DCJS”) to establish regulations governing the implementation of the Secured Schools Pilot Program and establish criteria for making grants from the Secured Schools Pilot Program Fund.

The bill requires DCJS to establish a three-year pilot program to implement a comprehensive, prompt, and reliable first warning notification and emergency broadcast system, known as the Secured Schools Pilot Program (SSPP), for each participating public safety answering point (PSAP) in the Commonwealth to (i) allow elementary or secondary school faculty to alert the local PSAP of an imminent threat to public safety within the elementary or secondary school and (ii) alert administration at each elementary and secondary school located within such PSAP's service area in the case of an imminent threat to public safety within the proximity boundary of the elementary or secondary school.

The bill adds § 9.1-195 (Secured Schools Pilot Program Fund) to create a nonreverting fund on the books of the Comptroller.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Indeterminate

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill creates a Secured School Program Fund (Fund) and moneys in the Fund is to be used solely for the purposes of enforcing the provisions of the legislation. According to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (“DCJS”), the agency does not have technology staffing or staff expertise in these technologies to carry-out the process of establishing a first warning notification system for school buildings in the Commonwealth. Therefore, the agency would need to contract with a vendor to assess the school landscape and make recommendations on what system or systems would best meet the needs of the Commonwealth. Contractor costs cannot be determined at this time. The agency also believes it will need positions to implement the requirement of the bill. Specifically, a program manager and several technology analysts, however, until a complete assessment is made by a

vendor to determine the process of implementing the pilot program as outlined in the proposed bill, the magnitude of the cost cannot be determined. According to the agency, the estimated cost of one program manager is \$153,000 (salary and benefits), and the estimated cost of one technology analyst is \$133,000 (salary and benefits).

The impact on the Department of Education and local school divisions cannot be determined at this time. If additional information is available, the fiscal impact statement will be updated.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Criminal Justice Services, Department of Education, and local school divisions.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None