

Department of Planning and Budget 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1028

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☒ Engrossed

Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Cosgrove

3. Committee: Transportation

4. Title: Crash reports; inspection by certain persons

5. Summary: This bill changes the person authorized to inspect a crash report from the present owner of a vehicle or property involved in the crash to the owner of such vehicle or property at the time of the crash.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill proposes limiting the release of crash reports to individuals who owned the vehicle or piece of property involved in the crash at the time the crash occurred.

In its current form, Code § 46.2-380 requires the release of crash reports to uninvolved third parties who acquire a vehicle or property after the crash. For example, an individual who purchased a vehicle in 2021 can access a crash report from 2015, when the individual requesting the report was not the owner. Crash reports may contain sensitive information about the persons involved in the crash. The bill amends the Code to limit the release of crash reports to those who owned the vehicle or property at the time of the crash and their attorneys.

The Department of Motor Vehicles does not anticipate significant implementation challenges associated with the bill and will be able to implement the legislation using existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Motor Vehicles.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is a companion to HB 1620.