

Department of Planning and Budget 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB1069E

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Saslaw

3. **Committee:** Transportation

4. **Title:** Drivers stopping for pedestrians; certain signs; stops.

5. **Summary:** Requires the driver of a vehicle on a highway to stop when any pedestrian crossing such highway is within the driver's lane or within an adjacent lane and approaching the driver's lane until the pedestrian has passed the lane in which the vehicle is stopped. Currently, a driver is required to yield the right-of-way to such pedestrian by stopping and remaining stopped. The bill also provides that localities that are already authorized to install signs directing motor vehicles to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing or attempting to cross a highway may also install signs directing motor vehicles to stop for such pedestrians.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** According to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), there are an estimated 100 ground-mounted signs and six overhead signs in the current inventory of the state highway system that direct drivers to "yield to pedestrians" and would be impacted by this proposal. VDOT has determined that these signs would need to be replaced with "stop for pedestrians" signage and the total cost to replace the current inventory is \$70,000. VDOT has determined that the costs associated with this proposal can be absorbed with their current appropriation.

Under the proposed changes to § 46.2-924, any operator of a motor vehicle who fails to comply with signs indicating to yield the right-of-way to or stop for pedestrians is guilty of a traffic infraction and punishable by a fine between \$100 and \$500 in certain localities. Proceeds of all fines and penalties collected are paid into the Literary Fund or into the localities depending on who writes the ticket and whether state or local law is cited. As such, the impact on these revenues as a result of the proposal is indeterminate at this time.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Transportation, state and local law enforcement agencies, local governments.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.