

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1486

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Morrissey

3. Committee: Senate Committee on the Judiciary

4. Title: Per diem compensation for substitute judges.

5. Summary: The proposed bill amends § 16.1-69.44 (Salaries of judges) raising from \$200 to \$500 the per diem compensation for substitute judges in district courts.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 45 (\$735,034)
Item 46 (\$679,164)
Item 47 (\$99,792)

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

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (“OES”), attorney substitute judges sat for 4,688 days in FY 2022, with per diem expenditures totaling \$1,009,326 (\$937,600 plus \$71,726 in FICA taxes). If future per diem payments remain at FY 2022 levels, per diem expenditures at the \$500 per diem rate would total \$2,523,316 (\$2,344,000 plus \$179,316 in FICA taxes), an increase of \$1,513,990 annually.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: General District Courts, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts, and Combined District Courts

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None