

## Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB799E

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Hope

**3. Committee:** Public Safety

**4. Title:** Concealed handgun permit applications; fingerprints required by local governments.

**5. Summary:** This bill requires an applicant for a concealed handgun permit or a renewal of such permit to submit fingerprints as part of the application. The engrossed bill provides that the provisions of the act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, see Item 415.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, see Item 8 below.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The bill requires that as a condition for issuance of a concealed handgun permit or for the issuance of a renewal concealed handgun permit, the applicant must submit to fingerprinting where the applicant resides and also provide personal descriptive information to be forwarded with the fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information. The CCRE is managed by the Virginia State Police (VSP). Additionally, the bill requires where feasible and practical, the local law-enforcement agency may transfer information electronically to VSP instead of inked fingerprint cards. Upon completion of the criminal history records check, VSP must return the fingerprint cards to the submitting local agency or, in the case of scanned fingerprints, destroy the electronic record.

The local agency must promptly notify the person that he has 21 days from the date of the notice to request return of the fingerprint cards, if any. All fingerprint cards not claimed by the applicant within 21 days of notification by the local agency shall be destroyed. All optically scanned fingerprints must be destroyed upon completion of the criminal history records check without requiring that the applicant be notified. The bill also prohibits copying, holding, or using fingerprints taken for the purposes described in this bill for any other purposes.

The Department of State Police (VSP), which oversees the Concealed Weapons Program and would process the fingerprint checks, believes the bill is likely to impact their operation.

Over the last five years, VSP, on average, processed 135,949 concealed handgun permits applications and renewals.

At this time, it is unknown how many fingerprint transactions would be manually or electronically submitted to VSP, therefore, the exact number of technicians and administrative positions needed cannot be reasonably estimated. Currently, one Fingerprint Technician can process up to 10,000 manual fingerprint cards per year or 20,000 electronic fingerprint transactions per year. The estimated annual general fund salary for a Fingerprint Technician Trainee, including benefits, is \$76,595 the first year and \$74,473 the second year. The estimated annual general fund salary, including benefits for a Fingerprint Technician Supervisor in the first year, would be \$110,191 and \$108,069 in the second year. The estimated annual general fund salary, including benefits, for an Agency Management Analyst would be \$107,265 in year one and \$105,143 in year two, while the estimated annual general fund salary, including benefits, for a Program Support Senior Technician, would be \$100,765 in the first year and \$98,643 in the second year.

Finally, VSP estimates it will be one-time \$162,880 for IT development system modification to the Computerized Applicant Tracking System (CATS) to update billing logic and business rules to accommodate the additional reason for fingerprinting in the first year. Not included in these expenses are costs such as leasing office space and purchasing furniture, which will be dependent on the number of positions provided. VSP estimated the cost for these items for one position to be \$10,199 per person in the first year and \$5,224 in the second year, respectively. The impact on localities cannot be determined at this time.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of State Police, and localities' circuit courts.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.