

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB846

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

2. Patron: Williams

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: Department of Criminal Justice Services; certification and regulation of charitable bail.

5. Summary: Provides for certification and regulation by the Department of Criminal Justice Services of charitable bail organizations, defined in the bill as any entity or nonprofit organization that exists for the purpose of providing or posting bond for another person and does not include a person that pays bail for (i) three or fewer defendants in any 180-day period or (ii) a defendant's family or household member.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: See Item 8 below.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to certify and regulate bail bonding charitable organizations. DCJS currently licenses individual bail bondsmen but does not have oversight of bail bondsmen business entities or nonprofit organizations.

The proposed bill specifies that charitable bail organization applicants shall submit a \$900 nonrefundable application processing fee to DCJS.

DCJS reports that it is unknown how many organizations currently operate in the Commonwealth and would seek licensure as a charitable bail organization should this legislation pass. DCJS estimates that it may need up to two FTE to implement the new program and handle additional workload on other existing functions within DCJS's Division of Licensure and Regulatory Services depending on the workload. DCJS believes it would need one investigator to conduct investigations and auditing at an annual salary of \$108,750 (including benefits), and one administrative support position to handle various day-to-day administrative functions at an annual salary of \$79,750 (including benefits). However, the number of applications that would be submitted under this proposed bill cannot be determined to assess the agency's workload at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Criminal Justice Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.