

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1061

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Walker

3. Committee: Committee on Public Safety

4. Title: Prisoners; Department of Corrections-issued and jailer-issued identification.

5. Summary: This bill amends § 53.1-31.4 (Department of Corrections-issued identification) by allowing the Department of Corrections (DOC) to establish a procedure for securing a government-issued identification card, birth certificate, or Social Security card through the Department of Motor Vehicles. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to expedite, to the extent possible, the processing of an application submitted by a prisoner for such government-issued identification card and the issuance of such identification.

Currently, § 53.1-116.1:02 (Jailer-issued identification) allows a sheriff, jail superintendent, or other jail administrator to establish a procedure for securing such identification through the Department of Motor Vehicles. This bill adds a provision requiring the Department of Motor Vehicles to expedite, to the extent possible, the processing of an application submitted by a prisoner for such government-issued identification card and the issuance of such identification.

An enactment clause requires DOC, in coordination with the State Board of Local and Regional Jails, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the State Registrar of Vital Records, to (i) review the processes involved in assisting a prisoner in applying for and obtaining a government-issued identification card, birth certificate, or Social Security card; (ii) identify any obstacles that may interfere with a prisoner obtaining such identification or documents prior to such prisoner's release or discharge; and (iii) issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Corrections (DOC) reports that there are already policies and procedures established that address providing birth certificates, social security cards, and Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)-issued identification cards to inmates prior to their release. The identification cards are provided through the DMV Connect program. DOC does not expect this provision or the requirement of the study to have a material impact on agency operations.

According to DMV, the agency does not work directly with any jails through the DMV Connect program to offer the services described in this bill. Because the bill permits but does not require this program in jails, DMV does not expect this bill to have a fiscal impact on agency operations. Ultimately, the fiscal impact this bill would have on DMV would depend on the number of jails that choose to offer the program.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Corrections, Department of Motor Vehicles, State Board of Local and Regional Jails, State Registrar of Vital Records

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None