

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB435EH1

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

2. Patron: Wright, Jr.

3. Committee: Engrossed

4. Title: Parole Board; powers and duties

5. Summary: The amended legislation would require the Virginia Parole Board (Board) to review and decide the case of each prisoner eligible for parole from at least annually to every three years after the initial review of the case, with the exception of cases in which fewer than 10 years are remaining on the sentence. The proposed legislation establishes that as a part of the investigation before the Board decides to grant or deny parole, the Board must, if applicable, review in its entirety the transcript from the trial that resulted in the conviction or convictions for which the inmate is currently serving a term of imprisonment.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Board reports that the requirement established by the proposed legislation, requiring the review of transcripts, if applicable, during deliberations for consideration of parole is already currently performed. Therefore, the legislation is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the Board's operations.

The Board reports that the requirement pertaining to the frequency for review by the Board of an inmate eligible for parole, from at least annually to every three years after the initial review of the case, or annually if there are fewer than 10 years remaining on the sentence, will require a programming change to the Virginia Department of Corrections Information System (CORIS) to extract data of eligible offenders for the first year, then every three years after initial review. The Board reports that this modification will cost approximately \$108,000 to be paid to the CORIS vendor, ABILIS. The Board states that this cost is estimated based on charges for similar changes required in the past. It is expected that this one-time cost can be absorbed by the Department of Corrections (DOC). However, the cumulative costs associated with other bills that are passed during the 2022 General Assembly session may have to be addressed if multiple or complex changes to CORIS are ultimately required.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Parole Board; Department of Corrections.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: DOC reports that due to the volume of changes currently being made to CORIS, DOC may not be able to make changes required by this bill immediately upon its passage.