

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB776

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

2. Patron: Herring

3. Committee: Committee Referral Pending

4. Title: Minimum qualifications for law-enforcement officers; citizenship; waiver.

5. Summary: Allows individuals who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence, have resided in the United States for no less than 60 months, and are both eligible for and have applied for United States citizenship to qualify for the positions of chief of police and all police officers of any locality, all deputy sheriffs and jail officers in the Commonwealth, and all law-enforcement officers. The bill allows any agency or department employing law-enforcement officers to hire, recruit, or refer an individual who is a citizen of the United States over another individual who meets such qualifications if such individuals are equally qualified. Current law only allows citizens of the United States to qualify for the named positions; the citizenship requirement can only be waived for good cause upon request of a sheriff or chief of police or the director or chief executive of any agency or department employing law-enforcement officers to the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the proposed bill is not expected to create a fiscal impact on agency resources. The proposed bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on state law-enforcement agencies. Any fiscal impact on local law-enforcement agencies is unknown at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Criminal Justice Services, state and local law-enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.