

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB503

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

2. **Patron:** Surovell

3. **Committee:** Transportation

4. **Title:** License plate reader systems; civil penalty.

5. **Summary:** Provides requirements for the use of license plate reader systems, defined in the bill, by law-enforcement agencies. The bill limits the use of such systems to scanning, detecting, and recording data about vehicles and license plate numbers for the purpose of identifying a vehicle that is (i) associated with a wanted, missing, or endangered person or human trafficking; (ii) stolen; (iii) involved in an active law-enforcement investigation; or (iv) in the vicinity of a recent crime and may be connected to that crime. The bill authorizes and requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a permitting process for installing and using such systems in state highway rights-of-way.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes. \$125,000 from the general fund in FY2025 for the Department of General Services under Item 70 of HB30/SB30.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8 below.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** This legislation would require the Department of State Police's (VSP) Automated License Plate Reader (LPR) Coordinator to create a model policy on the use of LPRs by July 1, 2024. The bill also requires any state or local law enforcement agency to report to the department every year specific information regarding the use of LPRs to include aggregate number of vehicles for which data is collected, investigative leads developed through the use of LPR, case outcomes using LPRs, and other requirements as outlined. In order to collect the data on LPRs from other law enforcement agencies for the report, modifications to the Incident Based Reporting software (Beyond 2020) are required. Modifications to the Department's case reporting software (LEAMS) will also be required to capture the required data on VSP's use of LPRs for the report. The estimated one-time costs for these changes in FY2025 are \$25,000 for the Beyond 2020 system and \$16,000 for the LEAMS system for a total of \$41,000. It is anticipated that the department could absorb these costs within existing resources.

The Department of General Services/Division of Purchases and Supply (DGS/DPS) estimates that they will need to work with the impacted agencies and hire a consultant with specific technical expertise to determine appropriate license plate reader technology in accordance with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as required in the bill at an estimated one-time cost of \$125,000 general fund in FY2025.

The bill authorizes the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a permitting process for installing and using such systems in state highway rights-of-way. It is anticipated that the permitting would be implemented by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). It is anticipated that that VDOT would charge a fee to review requests for permits and any costs associated with the reviews would be covered by the fees.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia State Police, Department of General Services, Commonwealth Transportation Board, Virginia Department of Transportation.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar to HB775.