

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1096

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

2. Patron: Ballard

3. Committee: Committee Referral Pending

4. Title: Law-enforcement officers; retired law-enforcement officers; carrying a firearm

5. Summary: Clarifies that “Capitol Square and the surrounding area,” as defined in the Code, does not include any public road or highway. The bill exempts law enforcement officers from the prohibition against carrying a firearm or explosive material within the Capitol, the Capitol Square and the surrounding area, any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or any agency thereof, or any office where employees of the Commonwealth or any agency thereof are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties. Under current law, a law enforcement officer is only exempt while acting in the conduct of his official duties; a violation is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

The bill also allows retired law enforcement officers to carry a firearm in a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or any agency thereof, or in any office where employees of the Commonwealth or any agency thereof are present for the purpose of performing their official duties. Under current law, they are only allowed to do so if such place is a gun range owned or leased by the Commonwealth; a violation is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation is not expected to have a fiscal impact on state agencies.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Capital Police.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.