

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB547

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

2. Patron: DeSteph

3. Committee: Rehabilitation and Social Services

4. Title: Virginia Parole Board; monthly reports.

5. Summary: The proposed legislation requires the Virginia Parole Board (the Board) to publish a statement regarding any action taken by the Board on the parole of a prisoner within 30 days of such action and to include in such statement information regarding the length of sentence and the date such sentence was imposed for each prisoner considered for parole.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: Currently, the Parole Board (Board) is required to publish by the fifteenth day of each month a statement regarding the action taken by the Board on the parole of prisoners during the prior month. The statement is required to include the following: (i) the name of each prisoner considered for parole, (ii) the offense of which the prisoner was convicted, (iii) the jurisdiction in which such offense was committed, (iv) the amount of time the prisoner has served, (v) whether the prisoner was granted or denied parole, and (vi) the basis for the grant or denial of parole. Existing law also establishes that in the case of a prisoner granted parole, the information set forth in clauses (i) through (vi) regarding such prisoner is to be included in the statement published in the month immediately succeeding the month in which notification of the decision to grant parole was given to the attorney for the Commonwealth and any victims.

The proposed legislation amends the existing reporting requirement by changing the frequency of the report by the Board on the parole of prisoners from “by the fifteenth day of each month” to “within 30 days of such action.” The Board reports that currently this monthly report is populated on the fifteenth of the month using an internal system, the Department of Corrections Information System (CORIS), and as such, CORIS would need to be reprogrammed in order to comply with the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation also includes an additional criteria to the reporting requirement stating that it will include “the length of the prisoner's sentence and the date such sentence was imposed.” The Board reports that this new category will need to be programmed into CORIS. The Board states that the two programming changes to CORIS required by the proposed legislation will cost approximately \$108,000. 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. Additionally, 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.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.