

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB859

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

2. Patron: Williams

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Human trafficking investigators; licensing by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

5. Summary: Authorizes the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to register and issue licenses for human trafficking investigators. The bill provides that a human trafficking investigator is a private investigator who is GSA compliant and engages in the business of, or accepts employment to make, investigations to obtain information on sex trafficking or severe forms of trafficking as defined in the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and in the federal Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015. The bill provides exceptions.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: Currently, a person employed as a licensed private security services business in the Commonwealth must be issued a license and register with the DCJS. The proposed bill creates a new category of private investigator, a licensed human trafficking investigator who would require license and registration through DCJS.

According to DCJS, currently there is not enough information to reliably estimate the overall fiscal impact on agency operations. To the extent a position is needed to support the efforts outlined in the bill, the agency believes the position would be fully funded with fees generated from the applications fees associated with licensure and registration.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Criminal Justice Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.