

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB896 ER

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

2. Patron: Hernandez

3. Committee: Passed both Houses

4. Title: Deferred or installment payment agreements; certain benefits; maximum amounts to be paid.

5. Summary: This bill amends § 19.2-354.1 (Deferred or installment payment agreements) by providing that in any case in which a defendant owes fines and costs and where such defendant's sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, then such defendant is exempt from making payments at least until such time that such defendant has a resource other than a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income. If such defendant informs the court that his sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, the case cannot be referred to collections pursuant to § 19.2-349 (governs collections and disposition of fines). Courts are required to include in payment plan policies developed in accordance with §§ 19.2-354 and 19.2-354.1 that where the court is informed that a defendant receives a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, no payment toward fines and costs can be taken from such exempt resource.

The bill also provides that no Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income can be considered an available resource in determining the length of time to pay under a deferred, modified deferred, or installment payment agreement and the amount of payments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (OES), the bill is not expected to have a material fiscal impact on the resources of the court system.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Courts

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None