

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB207HI

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

2. **Patron:** Diggs

3. **Committee:** House Committee on Public Safety

4. **Title:** Universal licensure for certain law-enforcement officers.

5. **Summary:** The bill provides that any sworn law-enforcement officer with at least one year of law enforcement experience (i) whose training qualifications meet or exceed current training standards established by the Board of Criminal Justice Services (the Board) in accordance with this article and who is in compliance with §§ 15.2-1705 and 15.2-1706, (ii) who has not had a break in service of more than 24 months, and (iii) who is leaving the transferring law-enforcement agency in good standing with no pending investigations or disciplinary actions shall be eligible for employment at any law-enforcement agency within the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof. Any such law-enforcement officer shall complete any other training as determined to be necessary by the Board to ensure understanding of the criminal laws and all other laws of the Commonwealth.

The hiring agency must request from all prior employing law-enforcement agencies any information (i) related to an arrest or prosecution of the applicant law-enforcement officer, including any expunged arrest or criminal charge known to the agency or disclosed during the hiring process that would otherwise be prohibited from disclosure in accordance with § 19.2-392.4; (ii) related to a civil suit regarding the applicant law-enforcement officer's employment or performance of his duties; (iii) obtained during the course of any internal investigation related to the applicant law-enforcement officer's alleged criminal conduct, use of excessive force, or other official misconduct in violation of the state professional standards of conduct adopted by the Board; and (iv) related to the applicant law-enforcement officer's job performance that led to such officer's resignation, dismissal, demotion, suspension, or transfer. The hiring law-enforcement agency shall employ all reasonable means to obtain personnel records for law-enforcement officers transferring from an out-of-state or federal law-enforcement agency, including requesting the applicant law-enforcement officer to complete a waiver or release liability authorizing the hiring law-enforcement agency to request such information as listed in this subsection from all prior employing law-enforcement agencies. The substitute bill also provides that no law-enforcement officer shall be eligible for employment pursuant to this section until the requested information is received.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), this bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on agency operations.

According to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), this bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on agency operations. According to the Virginia State Police, the bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on agency operations. The fiscal impact on local law enforcement agencies is unknown.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Criminal Justice Services, state and local law enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.