

## Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB481-S1

**House of Origin**     Introduced     Substitute     Engrossed

**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute     Enrolled

2. **Patron:**    Aird

3. **Committee:** Courts of Justice

4. **Title:** Abolition of juvenile fines and fees; criminal offenses.

5. **Summary as Introduced:** Abolishes court costs, fines, and fees assessed to a juvenile or his parent or other persons responsible for his care in circuit court and juvenile and domestic relations court related to prosecutions of criminal offenses.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** See Item 8 below

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The substitute bill provides that no fine, fee, cost, or civil penalty would be assessed against a juvenile or his parents or other persons responsible for his care for violating § 4.1-305 (purchasing or possessing alcoholic beverages unlawful in certain cases.) Currently, there is a mandatory minimum fee of \$500.00 or mandatory minimum of 50 hours of community service as a condition of probation supervision. The bill provides certain exceptions.

According to the Office of the Executive Secretary (OES), between calendar years 2018 and 2022, an average of \$462,545 in fines and costs was assessed against juvenile defendants for delinquency matters in juvenile and domestic relations district courts statewide. During the same time period, the OES reports that an average of \$424,408 was assessed against persons who were under the age of 18 at the time of offense but were tried in circuit courts for criminal cases. Between the two categories, an estimated \$886,953 was assessed. Assuming that courts generally receive payments totaling 60 percent of the court fines and costs that had been assessed against minors within a given year, it is anticipated that the fiscal impact as a result of the bill to be approximately \$532,172 to the general fund.

Proceeds of all fines and penalties collected for offenses committed against the Commonwealth are paid into the state treasury to the credit of the Literary Fund.

The Department of Juvenile Justice reports that this bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the agency's operations.

Impact on localities cannot be determined at this time.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Courts and the Department of Juvenile Justice.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** No