



**Department of Planning and Budget**  
**2025 General Assembly Session**  
**State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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The Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission reports that, based on Circuit Court Case Management System (CMS) data for fiscal year (FY) 2023 and FY2024, 5,213 (10.6 percent) of felony sentencing events involved a conviction for at least one felony firearm offense affected by the proposal. Of the 5,213 offenders, 67.7 percent received a state-responsible (prison) term. For the offenders who received a state prison term, the median sentence was 3.0 years. Another 18.1 percent received a local-responsible (jail) term with a median sentence of 6.0 months. The remaining 14.1 percent did not receive an active term of incarceration to serve after sentencing.

Based on this information, VCSC estimates the impact of the firearms portion of this proposal to be at least 395 additional prison beds statewide by FY2031. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is at least \$21,673,730. The analysis assumes the proposal applies to defendants whose offenses are committed on or after July 1, 2025 (not retroactively to those already serving time for an affected felony).

The proposal may also increase the need for local-responsible (jail) beds, specifically for felony offenders given a sentence of 12 months or less. The impact on jail beds is estimated to be at least 29 beds by FY2031 (state costs: \$593,723; local costs: \$914,269).

VCSC reports that it is not possible to estimate the impact of the proposal on inmates who commit offenses while incarcerated. The analysis excludes offenders sentenced solely for probation or other supervision violations, as the specific underlying offense is not easily identifiable. Therefore, the fiscal impact estimated by VCSC represents the minimum impact to the state and localities.

DOC reports that this bill would require extensive modification upgrades to the CORIS, which is the offender management system DOC uses to calculate earned sentence credits in order for it to capture credits earned during the entire period of a person's incarceration (before and after conviction). DOC estimates the one-time cost of the required modifications at \$350,000 and estimates that 12 months would be needed to implement and test the changes. It is expected that DOC could absorb the one-time costs associated with the modification.

The impact this bill may have on the inmate management systems used by local and regional jails is not known at this time. If additional information becomes available, this impact statement will be revised.

**Other:** None