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

PUBLISHED: 1/24/2025 5:13 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB1482 **Patron:** Suetterlein
Bill Title: Bribes to officers or candidates for office; gratuities for previous acts.

Bill Summary: Clarifies that the term ''gratuity'' includes any gratuity given for a prior official act of any executive, legislative or judicial officer, sheriff or police officer, or any candidate for such office.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** Item 390
Explanation: See below

Fiscal Summary:

Proposal requires minimum “Woodrum” impact funding per § 30-19.1:4, Code of Virginia, to account for a possible increase in the need for state prison beds due to this legislation.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
Dept. of Corrections		$50,000				
TOTAL		**$50,000**				

Fiscal Analysis:

The proposal amends §§ 2.2-3101, 19.2-37, and 30-101 and adds § 18.2-438.1 to the Code of Virginia. As proposed, the definition of gratuity would include any gratuity given for a prior act of any executive, legislative, or judicial officer, sheriff or police officer, or any candidates to such office. Currently, the relevant statutes prohibit such officers and candidates from receiving gifts and gratuities and such acts are punishable as Class 4 felonies. The proposal clarifies that when the term gratuity is used it includes any gratuity given to an officer or candidate for a prior official act.

This proposal expands the applicability of a Class 4 felony. Anyone convicted of a Class 4 felony is subject to a term of imprisonment of not less than two years nor more than 10 years and a fine of not more than $100,000. Therefore, this proposal could result in an increase in the number of persons sentenced to prison.

Due to the lack of data, the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission has concluded, pursuant to §30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, that the impact of the proposed legislation on state-responsible (prison) bed space cannot be determined. In such cases, Chapter 2, 2024 Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, requires that a minimum impact of $50,000 be assigned to the bill.

Other: None