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

PUBLISHED: 1/28/2025 4:24 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB1968 **Patron:** Delaney
Bill Title: Compensating victims of crime.

Bill Summary: Extends the timeline for filing a claim by a victim from one to three years after the occurrence of the crime upon which such claim is based. The bill makes various amendments to how an award shall be made by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No. **Items Impacted:** None.
Explanation: The fiscal impact of the proposed legislation cannot be determined. The number of claims filed by victims may increase as a result of extending the timeline from one year to three years; however, the impact to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF) cannot be determined.

Fiscal Summary: According to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission (VWC), extending the timeline for filing a claim by a victim of crime from one year to three years and changing the award requirements may increase the number of claims filed. Increasing the timeline and amendments to the award requirements may impact the overall funding available in the CICF for all claimants; however, the fiscal impact to the CICF cannot be determined.

Fiscal Analysis: The VWC receives federal funding for victims of crime from the Department of Justice through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). Current federal rules about VOCA indicate that crime victim compensation programs must promote victim cooperation with the reasonable requests of law enforcement authorities. State crime victim compensation programs maintain the authority and discretion to establish their own standards for victim cooperation with the reasonable requests of law enforcement.

Other: This bill is a companion to SB 1200-S1.