

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 1/20/2026 3:17 PM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB60

Patron: Locke

Bill Title: Virginia Parole Board; powers and duties; juvenile offenders; parole procedures and considerations.

Bill Summary: Requires that, whenever possible, members of the Virginia Parole Board and any support staff of the Board possess relevant background in adolescent development and the psychology of decision-making with a greater emphasis on those persons with a background in social work or social services. The bill also requires the Board to provide a meaningful opportunity for release to certain juvenile offenders eligible for parole and specifies various factors the Board shall consider when making a determination on whether to grant parole to such juvenile offender. The bill allows a juvenile offender to request for reconsideration or appeal of a decision by the Board not to grant parole based on (i) the Board's failure to consider such juvenile offender's age and its related mitigating circumstances as required by the bill or (ii) the Board's consideration of the circumstances of the offense outweighing evidence of rehabilitation and a lack of present danger to public safety. The bill requires the Board to provide individualized reasons for the grant or denial of parole upon reconsideration or appeal. The bill also requires that if parole is denied for any such juvenile offender, each Board member shall identify his reasoning for such decision at the time such member's vote is cast, including any youth-related factor and evidence of maturity and rehabilitation that was considered. The bill requires that the Board provide to such inmate steps the inmate may take to demonstrate commitment to rehabilitation and requires the Board to consider whether the inmate has taken such steps at the next hearing. Lastly, the bill requires the Board to annually review the cases of such juvenile offenders eligible for parole.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: Item 419

Explanation: See below

Fiscal Summary: According to the Virginia Parole Board, the fulfilling the provisions of this bill would require ongoing funds for one position and one-time spending for IT updates.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031
Virginia Parole Board		\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000
Department of Corrections	\$40,000	\$80,000				
TOTAL	\$40,000	\$163,000	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

Position Impact:

Agency	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
Virginia Parole Board		1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL		1	1	1	1	1

Fiscal Analysis:

According to the Virginia Parole Board (the Board), to effectively assess the criteria listed in the bill, the Board would need to create a new Parole Examiner position with expertise in adolescent development. Based on the pay of an existing wage employee with a background in adolescent development, the Board estimates the annual cost for the new Parole Examiner would start at \$83,000 (includes salary and benefits) in FY 2027.

The Board uses Department of Corrections Information System (CORIS) to manage offender information and voting. Currently, the Department of Corrections (DOC) provides CORIS support for the Board and is financially responsible for making any systems changes. The Board, in consultation with DOC and the contractor that works on the CORIS offender management system (Abilis), reports that carrying out the provisions of this bill would require programming changes to the Board's CORIS Parole Board Module. DOC reports that the updates would cost \$40,000 upfront with an additional \$80,000 to complete the project for a total of \$120,000 in one-time costs.

Other: None