

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

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**PUBLISHED: 2/5/2026 11:29 AM**

**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB1392

**Patron:** Keys-Gamarra

**Bill Title:** Powers and duties for operation of local and regional correctional facilities and courthouse security; attorney access to courthouses and communication and visitation with incarcerated clients; penalty.

**Bill Summary:** Provides that if a sheriff allows courthouse employees, law-enforcement officers, or both to bypass any security screening required to enter a courthouse, such sheriff shall also exempt from the security screening any attorney who displays a valid Virginia State Bar-issued bar card and a government-issued identification. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any attorney who has had his license to practice law in the Commonwealth suspended or revoked and who displays a Virginia State Bar-issued bar card in an effort to be exempt from the security screening. The bill also requires the State Board of Local and Regional Jails to develop and establish minimum standards to ensure that attorneys have sufficient opportunities to have confidential visits with their clients and requires sheriffs or jail superintendents to provide a telephonic, electronic, or web-based communication method for prisoners in local correctional facilities to communicate with attorneys.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**Items Impacted:** None

**Explanation:** See below.

**Fiscal Summary:**

There is not enough information available to reliably estimate the increase in jail population as a result of this proposal that creates an additional Class 1 misdemeanor. According to the Department of Corrections (DOC), there is no anticipated fiscal impact from this bill.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.

There is not enough information available to reliably estimate the increase in jail population as a result of this proposal. However, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth currently pays localities \$5.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local-responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds a large portion of the jails' operating costs, e.g., correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2025), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$58.25 per inmate, per day in FY 2024.

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According to DOC, there is no anticipated fiscal impact as a result of the bill. Any unanticipated costs that may arise from the bill are expected to be covered with existing resources.

**Other:** None