

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

---

**PUBLISHED: 2/9/2026 4:20 PM**

**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB224

**Patron:** Hope

**Bill Title:** Paternity; proceedings to establish.

**Bill Summary:** Adds the methods by which the Department of Social Services administratively establishes paternity for the purposes of child support enforcement to the lists of ways that a parent and child relationship may be established in domestic relations proceedings under Title 20 and that a parent and child relationship may be established for determining rights related to a deed, will, trust, or other instrument. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**Items Impacted:** n/a

**Fiscal Summary:** No fiscal impact.

**Fiscal Analysis:** This bill allows for methods by which the Department of Social Services administratively establishes paternity to also be used as a method to establish a parent and child relationship in domestic relations proceedings and in the determination of rights related to a deed, will, trust, or other instrument. The Department of Social Services reports no fiscal impact resulting from such allowance. The Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia does not anticipate a fiscal impact to the Courts system resulting from this legislation.

**Other:** n/a