

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB969 S1

Patron: Price

Bill Title: Firearm violence; DCJS to develop policy and legislative recommendations to address, report.

Bill Summary: The substitute bill directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to convene a work group to develop policy and legislative recommendations to address firearm violence. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and any legislative and policy recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2026.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: N/A

Explanation: See fiscal analysis

Fiscal Summary: According to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the substitute bill is not expected to have a material fiscal impact on agency operations in fiscal year 2027. The fiscal impact in fiscal year 2028 and beyond is indeterminate.

Fiscal Analysis: The substitute bill requires DCJS to develop a plan to implement new responsibilities under the Office of Safer Communities as the Commonwealth's primary resource for research, best practices, and strategies for the implementation of firearm violence intervention, community-based intervention, and group violence intervention programs designed to reduce violence in communities. According to DCJS, there is no fiscal impact associated with developing and submitting the plan by November 1, 2026, as outlined in the substitute bill. DCJS's plan would address the costs in fiscal year 2028 and beyond to create and implement the responsibilities of the new Office by the delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Other: None