

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

**PUBLISHED: 3/16/2026 10:01 AM**

**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB21ER **Patron:** Helmer  
**Bill Title:** Firearm industry members; creates standards of responsible conduct; civil liability.

**Bill Summary:** Creates standards of responsible conduct for firearm industry members and requires such members to establish and implement reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, use, and marketing of the firearm industry member's firearm-related products, as those terms are defined in the bill. Such reasonable controls include reasonable procedures, safeguards, and business practices that are designed to (i) prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm-related product to a straw purchaser, firearm trafficker, person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or person who the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm himself or unlawfully harm another or of unlawfully possessing or using a firearm-related product; (ii) prevent the loss of a firearm-related product or theft of a firearm-related product from a firearm industry member; (iii) ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all provisions of state and federal law and does not otherwise promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product; (iv) prevent the installation and use of an auto sear on firearm-related products; and (v) ensure that the firearm industry member may not knowingly create, maintain, or contribute to a public nuisance, as defined in the bill, through the sale, manufacture, importing, or marketing of a firearm-related product. The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county, city, or town attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction and to recover costs and damages. The bill also provides that whenever the Attorney General has reasonable cause to believe that any person has engaged in, is engaging in, or is about to engage in any violation of this chapter, he may issue a civil investigative demand and that any civil investigative demands issued pursuant to this section shall be governed by the provisions of § 59.1-9.10, mutatis mutandis.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes **Items Impacted:** Item 50  
**Explanation:** See below.

**Fiscal Summary:** There is an anticipated impact on the Office of the Attorney General and Department of Law (OAG).

**General Fund Expenditure Impact:**

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
Office of the Attorney General		\$409,864	\$409,864	\$409,864	\$409,864	\$409,864
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$409,864</b>	<b>\$409,864</b>	<b>\$409,864</b>	<b>\$409,864</b>	<b>\$409,864</b>

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**Position Impact:**

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
Office of the Attorney General		3	3	3	3	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

**Fiscal Analysis:** The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county, city, or town attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction and to recover costs and damages. The substitute also provides that whenever the Attorney General has reasonable cause to believe that any person has engaged in, is engaging in, or is about to engage in any violation of this chapter, he may issue a civil investigative demand and that any civil investigative demands issued pursuant to this section shall be governed by the provisions of § 59.1-9.10, mutatis mutandis

The Office of the Attorney General and Department of Law (OAG) reports this proposal would require the office to hire one Senior Assistant Attorney General, one Junior Assistant Attorney General, and one administrative position. The estimated cost of the Senior Assistant Attorney General salary and benefits is estimated to be \$150,227. The estimated cost of the Junior Assistant Attorney General salary and benefits is estimated to be \$135,766. The estimated cost of the Senior Assistant Attorney General salary and benefits is estimated to be \$93,871. Indirect costs such as training and travel for all three positions total \$30,000. The total for personnel and training and travel is estimated to cost \$409,864.

The impact on local city, county, and town attorneys is unknown.

**Other:** House budget amendment 50 #4h provided funding and three positions for the Office of the Attorney General to implement legislation passed by the House of Delegates, but does not specify the legislation the amendment is addressing.