

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB896 ER

Patron: Sullivan

Bill Title: Substantial risk orders; Substantial Risk Order Training Program established; annual report.

Bill Summary: The enrolled bill directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish the Substantial Risk Order Training Program for the purposes of training law-enforcement agencies and other public institutions throughout the Commonwealth to use and implement the substantial risk order law. The bill directs all law-enforcement officers to receive training in the use and implementation of substantial risk orders. The enrolled bill requires the programming to provide training regarding proper procedures to follow, the circumstances under which the law can be used, the benefits to public safety from proper use of the law, and the harm that may ensue from the law not being used when lawfully available. The Program also includes efforts to educate the public on and increase awareness of the substantial risk order law. The enrolled bill requires the Department to report by November 1 each year to the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security regarding the use of Program funds, details of the content of programming developed, and the effectiveness of the Program in assisting law-enforcement agencies and other public institutions in the use of the substantial risk order law.

The enrolled bill has a delayed enactment date of July 1, 2027.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: 391

Explanation: Additional funding and one position are needed to support the training program outlined in the proposed legislation.

Fiscal Summary: The enrolled bill would require the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to establish a new Substantial Risk Order Training Program for the purpose of training law enforcement agencies and other public institutions on the proper use and implementation of the substantial risk order law.

Newly hired officers receive training on substantial risk orders during DCJS-certified basic law enforcement academy sessions. While DCJS currently provides Substantial Risk Order training to various stakeholders such as law enforcement agencies, Commonwealth's Attorneys' offices, domestic violence service providers, and other community partners, this bill would broaden the current audience to include mental health professionals, emergency health care providers, public school personnel, and threat assessment teams at public institutions of higher education.

Furthermore, the proposed training expectation would expand current practice to include outreach to community members and organizations, the development and distribution of program literature as well as publication of best practices for the use of the law related to Substantial Risk Order protocols.

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According to DCJS, the agency would need one position and general fund support to establish and deliver the training as outlined in the enrolled bill. DCJS anticipates ongoing personnel expenses of \$127,804, including salary and benefits. DCJS also anticipates \$10,000 in ongoing travel expenses for outreach and training.

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>
DCJS			\$137,804	\$137,804	\$137,804	\$137,804
TOTAL			\$137,804	\$137,804	\$137,804	\$137,804

Position Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
DCJS			1	1	1	1
TOTAL			1	1	1	1

Fiscal Analysis: In order to properly develop and administer the new expanded program, DCJS anticipates that the agency would require one additional full-time equivalent position and funding to support the position.

This position would serve as a trainer/analyst to establish and deliver the new training to the expanded audience. The trainer/analyst would work with the new stakeholders to develop and deliver training tailored to this new group of stakeholders. This position would have an estimated annual salary of \$80,000 plus \$47,804 in benefits for a total cost of \$127,804.

DCJS also anticipates the need for \$10,000 in ongoing annual travel expenses related to training and outreach.

The enrolled bill instructs DCJS to evaluate and explore any potential funding sources for the Substantial Risk Order Training Program. However, there is no guarantee that DCJS will be able to find suitable alternative funding to support the mandated training and outreach outlined in the bill. DCJS currently does not have available general fund appropriation to absorb the costs associated with this bill.

The enrolled bill also has a delayed enactment date of July 1, 2027; therefore, the funding and position are needed starting in fiscal year 2028.

Other: A budget amendment providing one position and \$137,804 from the general fund in FY 2027 and FY 2028 to support the fiscal impact of this legislation was included by the House Appropriations Committee (391 #1h).