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

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Bill Number: HB1476ER **Patron:** Schmidt
Bill Title: Law-enforcement civilian oversight bodies; closed meetings; disclosure of certain law-enforcement records.

Bill Summary: Provides an exemption to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to allow closed meetings for discussion or consideration by any law-enforcement civilian oversight body established pursuant to §9.1-601 or established by a local governing body before July 1, 2020, and operating in a manner consistent with §9.1-601 of the criminal investigative files, audit findings, and deliberations regarding police operations related to a specific complaint before the body involving any violation or attempted violation of any offense (i) enumerated in Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2; (ii) specified in § 18.2-361, 18.2-370, or 18.2-370.1; or (iii) involving a juvenile the records of which would not be open to public inspection pursuant to § 16.1-301 or 16.1305. The bill allows inspection of certain law-enforcement records concerning juveniles by such civilian oversight bodies when required to perform their duties and by any independent policing auditor, manager, director, or other person responsible for duties enumerated in subsection C of §9.1-601 when designated by local governing body. Finally, the bill allows disclosure of certain information regarding crimes involving sexual assault, sexual abuse, or family abuse to such civilian oversight body and independent policing auditor, manager, director, or other responsible person for duties enumerated in subsection C of §9.1-601.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** None
Explanation: Not applicable

Fiscal Summary: There is no anticipated fiscal impact on state agencies as a result of this proposal.

Fiscal Analysis: This proposal provides an exemption to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to allow closed meetings for discussion or consideration by any local law-enforcement civilian oversight body established pursuant to general law of the criminal investigative files, audit findings, and deliberations regarding police operations related to a specific complaint before the body.

Other: None.