

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB332 E

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Salim

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: Misdemeanor; maximum term of confinement.

5. Summary: Under current law, Class 1 misdemeanor convictions are punishable by confinement in jail for not more than twelve months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both. This bill reduces the term of incarceration to 364 days. The bill contains technical amendments.

The engrossed version of this bill requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission (the Commission) to revise all labels on Sentencing Guidelines worksheets and instructions in the Sentencing Guidelines Manual so that any conviction for an offense defined as a Class 1 misdemeanor or any other misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of 364 days of incarceration, must be scored as if the maximum penalty were 12 months for the purposes of preparing and using the discretionary sentencing guidelines pursuant to § 19.2-298.01 (Use of discretionary sentencing guidelines). In addition, the enactment clause provides that the Commission cannot not modify any scores assigned on the worksheets without following the process prescribed in § 17.1-806 (Sentencing guidelines modifications; effective date).

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8 below.

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Compensation Board and the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, this bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on agency operations.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Compensation Board, Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None