

## Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB241

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

**2. Patron**        Norment**3. Committee**   Science and Technology**4. Title**            Technology Trust Fund Fee; increased, allocation

**5. Summary/Purpose:** Increases the fee from \$3 to \$5 and allows the use of the Trust Fund for developing and updating land records automation plans for individual clerks' offices; modernizing land records in individual clerks' offices and providing remote access to land records statewide; obtaining and updating office automation and information technology equipment; preserving, maintaining and enhancing court records, including, but not limited to, the costs of repairs, maintenance, service contracts and system upgrades; and improving public access to court records. The bill allows the clerk to use the Trust Fund for technology improvements in the law and chancery and criminal divisions after implementation of automation of land records with statewide remote access.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** PRELIMINARY; See Item 8 below.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** Yes; Item 66

**8. Fiscal implications:** As currently written, the proposal would have a fiscal impact since it requires the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) to certify the security compliance of the individual circuit court clerk offices to security standards developed by the Virginia Information Technologies Agency. According to VITA, the estimated cost to certify an individual clerk office would be about \$9,700 (220 hours at \$44.09 per hour). It is not known how many clerk offices would require this audit. For instance, the number of actual audits needed is significantly reduced since clerks often rely on the same vendor for their land records systems. (For example, VITA only needs to audit the Supreme Court of Virginia system to audit about 65 clerk offices.) Regardless, the cost incurred by VITA could be reimbursed out of the \$2 fee increase. In order to use dollars collected from the \$2 fee increase, an increase in non-general fund appropriation is necessary. The Compensation Board estimates that the circuit court clerks will receive about \$4,300,000 each year due to the \$2 fee increase.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Compensation Board, circuit court clerks statewide, Supreme Court of Virginia.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 02/20/04 / jgc

**Document:** G:\2004 session\EFIS -- Bill Impact Statements\Posted\SB241S1.DOC

cc: Secretary of Administration