Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB1253
House of Origin
Second House
2. Patron Hugo
3. Committee Privileges & Elections
4. Title Elections; primaries; voter registration; political party affiliation.
5. Summary/Purpose: Adds party affiliation to the information that an applicant is asked to provide when registering to vote. The applicant may indicate that he is an independent. Voters registered prior to January 1, 2007, will be designated as independent unless they provide a political party designation in writing to the general registrar. Voters may change their party affiliation or independent status by written notice at any time except during the 28 days before an election when the registration records are closed. The state party chairman of each political party must notify the State Board by January 31 of each year, of the party rules governing who may participate in the party's primaries.
6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are minimal.
7. Budget amendment necessary: No
8. Fiscal implications: The State Board of Elections (SBE) indicates that there would be no real impact. SBE is already required to provide a Virginia Voter Registration Card to all new registrants as well as to all current registered voters who indicate a change of registration information. The new statewide voter registration system VERIS, can be modified to meet the requirements of this proposed legislation with minimum fiscal impact which could be absorbed by the agency.
 Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: State Board of Elections, local registrars
10. Technical amendment necessary: No
11. Other comments: No

Date: 2/1/06 mtb

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cc: Secretary of Administration