

Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB781E

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron Albo

3. Committee Privileges & Elections

4. Title Rights of residents and employees to contact elected officials.

5. Summary/Purpose: Provides that every local government employee has the right to express opinions to state or local elected officials on matters of public concern. Retaliation based upon a local government employee's exercise of such right is unlawful. This measure tracks the language in § 2.2-2902.1 that is applicable to state employees. In addition, the bill provides that certain local auditors shall be responsible for administering a telephone hotline, and a website, if cost-effective, through which local employees and residents may report incidences of fraud, waste, or abuse in the administration of local government. Accordingly, auditors are authorized to inform local employees of the hotline through a variety of measures. Furthermore, the auditors are required to investigate authentic allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: Undetermined and a local responsibility

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications: The proposal would not have any fiscal impacts upon the Commonwealth, however, the cost of audit requirements set forth in the bill would be a local responsibility.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Local governments

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: No

Date: 2/2/06 mtb

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cc: Secretary of Administration