

Department of Planning and Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB1004

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

2. Patron Devolites Davis

3. Committee General Laws and Technology

4. Title Telecommuting; use of personal computers.

5. Summary/Purpose: Authorizes a state agency to allow employees to use computer equipment not owned or leased by the Commonwealth to telecommute, so long as such equipment is not used to access or store data made confidential by state or federal law. The substitute specifies that the use of Commonwealth equipment should be promoted and that use should meet Commonwealth information security standards.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: Indeterminate.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: The bill authorizes agency heads to allow employees to use employee owned computers, but does not require it. To determine whether the bill would result in increased costs or savings would require a variety of information that is not available at this time, such as the number of anticipated telecommuters willing to use their own computers, or the security and computer specifications required by each agency.

It is anticipated that using employee owned computers for telecommuting would reduce hardware support and maintenance costs since the employee would incur these general costs. However, different telecommuters will have different needs, and some of these needs may drive increased costs for either the telecommuter or the Commonwealth. For example, some telecommuters may require secure laptops connected to their agency LAN; others may require special communication software, multiple phone lines, a fax machine, a printer, a cell phone, and/or a telephone. The equipment that the owner must provide should always be based on business need, just as it is in the office.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: All state agencies that permit employees to use the employee's personal computer to telecommute.

10. Technical amendment necessary: None.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 02/05/07 / wfb

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cc: Secretary of Technology