

Department of Planning and Budget
2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB781

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron Cuccinelli

3. Committee Courts of Justice

4. Title Private property; definition of public uses, report

5. Summary/Purpose: This bill enacts two alternative definitions of the public uses for which private property may be taken, and provides for a November 2007 referendum at which voters may indicate which definition they prefer or vote to leave the law unchanged. If a majority of those voting vote in favor of one of the alternative definitions, it will take effect January 1, 2008.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: See Item 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, Item 85.

8. Fiscal implications: Fiscal impact estimates are one-time. A Statewide referendum to the voters will have a fiscal impact on the State Board of Elections (SBE) of at least \$200,000 whenever a constitutional amendment or other statewide issue is put on the ballot. The cost for the advertising required by §§ 30-19.9 and 30-19.10 is currently estimated at \$200,000 for the first such statewide constitutional amendment or ballot issue, and approximately \$66,000, for each additional amendment or ballot issue to be voted at the same election. Most of this cost is for the required newspaper advertising of the official explanations, which include the full text of the section being amended. SBE also incurs costs for the printing and shipping of brochures and posters containing the explanations and texts. The brochures are sent to every local registrar's office, and to anyone requesting copies. The posters are displayed in the registrars' offices and in every polling place.

Since the advertising is a one-time cost that cannot be predicted at the time the agency is preparing its budget package in the summer and fall (as it is never know how many amendments or issues the General Assembly will put on the ballot the next year), the advertising must be funded through a budget amendment.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: State Board of Elections, local electoral boards and registrars

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: None

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cc: Secretary of Administration