

## **Compensation Board 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB935ER

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

**2. Patron:** Smith

**3. Committee:** Courts of Justice

**4. Title:** Remote access to land records; allows occasional access thereto by public and sets a fee; pilot program for Prince William County Circuit Court Clerk.

**5. Summary:** § 17.1-276, Code of Virginia – Permits the clerk of the Circuit Court of Prince William County to establish a pilot program that will assess a daily fee for remote access to land records and a separate fee per image downloaded. The Clerk shall make a report on the pilot program to the House and Senate Committees on Courts of Justice on or before September 30, 2012. The report shall provide a summary of the pilot program and include the level of participation, the costs of the program, and the revenues generated by the program.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate. See Item 8.

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** None.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The fiscal effects of the proposed legislation cannot be projected because the impact will be determined by local decisions (Prince William County Circuit Court Clerk) that cannot be known at this time. It is not known how many individuals would be interested in “occasional” secure remote access, nor is it known how many downloads of individual land records images these individuals may be interested in acquiring. An August 2008 annual survey of circuit court clerks reports that 12,629,474 electronic land records’ images were available through secure remote access in Prince William County.

Per discussion with the Chief Deputy Clerk (Circuit Court) in Prince William County, the Clerk’s Office will pay for the system modifications to permit this alternative form of secure remote access out of existing funds. The Clerk’s office does not intend to target the use of Technology Trust Fund (TTF) revenues.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Circuit Court Clerk – Prince William County

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** n/a

**11. Other Comments:** n/a

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