

## Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB144

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

**2. Patron:** Miller, J.C.

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Absentee voting; application by electronic mail or other electronic means.

**5. Summary:** Provides that the State Board of Elections shall implement a system to accept absentee ballot applications electronically. Currently, an applicant may request and receive, but not submit, an absentee ballot application electronically.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary estimates are as follows:

**6a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2011	50,000	Nongeneral

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This preliminary estimate includes detail design documentation, web development and workflow. Also, the estimate assumes that this can be accomplished with electronic, instead of digital, signatures. However, it is important to note that these are estimates only and does not include any administrative or maintenance related expenses. Without an implementation plan, it is difficult to determine exact implications of this bill.

The most recent version of the legislation includes a provision preventing requirements from becoming effective without general fund appropriation. The agency now states that implementation costs associated with this legislation can be funded with federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) balances. HAVA is a one-time federal voting system reform grant, distributed in 2002, to allow states to comply with federal requirements and to provide technology upgrades.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** State Board of Elections, local government

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None

**Date:** 2/26/2010 dpb

**Document:** <http://dpb.virginia.gov/efis/fistemplate.doc>