

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB739

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

2. Patron: Petersen

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Voting devices; number required.

5. Summary: Provides that there shall be at least one voting device for each 500 registered voters in a precinct. The current requirement is for one device for each 750 registered voters.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final

8. Fiscal Implications: The State Board of Elections (SBE) indicates that this legislation would require the purchase of approximately 500 new pieces of voting equipment for localities that currently use direct recording electronic (DRE) machines because the legislation reduces the number of voters per DRE from 750 to 500.

As indicated in § 24.2-626 new DRE's can no longer be purchased for use in the Commonwealth, therefore, optical scan machines must be purchased to accommodate voters, which cost about \$10,000 per unit.

SBE estimates the cost of these machines to be \$10,000 each for a total one-time cost of \$5,000,000. SBE estimates 500 new pieces of voting equipment based upon SBE knowledge of current equipment and equipment needs.

This legislation as amended has an enactment date of January 1, 2016 and states "that the provisions of this act shall not become effective unless an appropriation of general funds effectuating the purposes of this act is included in a general appropriation act passed by the 2013 Session of the General Assembly, which becomes law."

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: 133 general registrar offices

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: n/a

11. Other Comments: none

Date: 2/8/13

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