

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB883

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

2. Patron: Deeds

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Voter registration cards.

5. Summary: Provides that the general registrar shall issue and mail a new Virginia voter registration card to all registered voters in his county or city no later than October 1 of each year.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 87

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary

8. Fiscal Implications: The State Board of Elections (SBE) indicates that this legislation could have a significant fiscal impact on SBE and the localities. Recent statewide voter registration card mailings have been handled at the state level by SBE. However, this legislation directs local registrars to send the mailings, therefore incurring significant cost.

Due to recent redistricting at the state level and Executive Order No. 45, implementing new voter ID legislation, SBE has completed two recent mailings of voter registration cards. Accordingly, SBE has recent and accurate per card estimates for this function. In 2012, those costs were .32 cents per card. Cost components of the voter card mailing in 2012 were as follows:

- The paper and printing of each voter card costs approximately .14 cents.
- The mailing of each voter card costs approximately .16 cents.
- The cost of voter cards returned undeliverable averages out to approximately .2 cents per card.
- The total cost to print, mail, and provide for return postage delivery fees for each voter card amounted to an average cost of .32 cents for each voter card mailed.

SBE estimates that the cost of postage will rise approximately one cent per year annually as it has in recent years, thus resulting in a one cent increase per card each year. Otherwise, cost estimates would remain the same for each year.

These cost estimates also take into account the growth in the number of registered voters per year between FY2014 and FY2019 based on the growth over the past six years.

SBE's estimates of the number of registered voters in the Commonwealth on October 1, 2013 through October 1, 2018 and accompanying costs:

<u>Calendar Date</u>	<u>Fiscal year</u>	<u>Estimated Number of Registered Voters</u>	<u>Cost Per Card</u>	<u>Total Voter Card Mailing Costs</u>
1-Oct-13	FY2014	5,308,672	.32	\$1,823,775
1-Oct-14	FY2015	5,616,868	.33	\$1,853,566
1-Oct-15	FY2016	5,820,926	.34	\$1,979,115
1-Oct-16	FY2017	5,882,956	.35	\$2,059,035
1-Oct-17	FY2018	5,996,307	.36	\$2,158,671
1-Oct-18	FY2019	6,232,887	.37	\$2,306,168

SBE has added an additional \$125,000 per fiscal year to pay for the subsequent list maintenance mailing that must be performed for voter cards that are returned to undeliverable.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State Board of Elections and 134 general registrar offices.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: n/a

11. Other Comments: none

Date: 1/11/13

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