

Department of Planning and Budget

2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB533

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: Marshall, R.G.

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: Governor; state agencies' use of public media to influence proposed executive or legislative action prohibited; exception.

5. Summary: The bill requires the Governor to ensure that neither the Virginia Department of Transportation nor the Commonwealth Transportation Board uses or attempts to use appropriated funds or grant or contract funds to solicit pressure on state or local government officials in relation to pending or proposed executive or legislative matters relating to any proposed safety-related or congestion management-related highway project or program through the use of public media. The bill excludes (i) the publication of notices in accordance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act (§ 2.2-4300 et seq.), the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 (§ 56-556 et seq.), or the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 (§ 56-575.1 et seq.); (ii) the soliciting of public comment or soliciting as may be required or permitted by law; or (iii) other ministerial acts if there is no attempt to use appropriated funds in violation of above requirements. The bill defines "public media" and provides that the provisions of the bill shall not be construed to inhibit the necessary flow of information and communication between the executive and legislative branches of government but are intended to prevent any inappropriate or undue influence on executive or legislative matters or processes.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill establishes policy that presents no fiscal impact to state government operations.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: General Assembly; Governor's Office; Virginia Department of Transportation; Commonwealth Transportation Board.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The bill is similar to House Bill 532.