

Department of Planning and Budget

2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB161

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

2. Patron: Favola

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Virginia Freedom of Information Act; participation in meetings in event of emergency or personal matters or distance from the meeting location.

5. Summary: The House's substitute bill requires the public body to adopt a written policy allowing for and governing participation of its members by electronic communication. Once adopted, the public body shall apply this policy uniformly to its entire membership, without regard to the identity of the member requesting remote participation or the matters that will be considered or voted on at the meeting. The bill also calls for the recordation in the meeting minutes if a member's participation from a remote location is denied.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill's changes are policy in nature and present no fiscal impact to state government operations.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Any local governing body, school board, or any local authority, board, or commission.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The House's latest changes make this bill identical to the Senate's substitute bill for House Bill 193.

2/28/2014.