

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1418

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

2. Patron: McWaters

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Petitions for candidacy; collection of signatures by electronic means.

5. Summary: Allows a candidate required to file a petition of candidacy to collect the required number of qualified signatures by electronic means. The Department of Elections is required to make available on its website a petition for any candidate who notifies the Department that he intends to collect signatures electronically. Before a signature is added to the electronic candidate petition, the Department of Elections is required to verify that the name, residence address, and identifying number provided by the qualified voter match the information contained in his voter registration record. The Department of Elections is also required to immediately alert any person whose signature is not added to the petition and to notify the candidate or the chairman of the candidate's political party when the minimum number of qualified signatures has been collected. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2017.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary – see Item 8.

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2015	\$0	0.00	-
2016	\$0	0.00	-
2017	\$63,812	0.00	GF
2018	\$0	0.00	-
2019	\$0	0.00	-
2020	\$0	0.00	-
2021	\$0	0.00	-

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Elections, this bill would necessitate the creation of a new online candidate petition website. The cost for creating a website with the requirements listed in Senate Bill 1418 would require about 500 hours of programmer time at a cost of \$46,750 and 300 hours of business analysis time for requirements, testing, and documentation at a cost of \$14,562. In addition to the website, the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS) would need to be modified to change the current petition verification process. The change to VERIS is expected to cost \$2,500.

The provisions of this act shall become effective on January 1, 2017; therefore; a budget amendment is not required.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Elections

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

c: Secretary of Administration