

## Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB853

**House of Origin**     Introduced     Substitute     Engrossed  
**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute     Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Favola

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Elections; assistance for certain voters.

**5. Summary:** Allows any qualified voter who is 75 years of age or older or a person with a disability to request to go to the front of the line and to vote at the next available voting booth or voting system. The bill requires the chief officer of election or other designated election official to grant any such request made between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. This provision applies also to central absentee voting precincts and locations in the county or city approved by the electoral board for the purpose of casting absentee ballots. The provision does not apply if a polling place is located in a nursing home, assisted living facility, or similar facility. A qualified voter who is 65 years of age or older or a person with a disability is still permitted to vote outside the polling place pursuant to § 24.2-649.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** None.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** No state fiscal impact.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Elections indicates that this bill would have no material fiscal impact to the Commonwealth. Changes to regulation and training to implement these requirements would be included as part of the agency's routine updates.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** All localities.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** The engrossed version of this bill incorporates SB1073. The engrossed version includes a clause that the provisions of the bill do not apply if a polling place located in a nursing home, assisted living facility, or similar facility. The Committee substitute contained this same provision, but only applied to voters who are residents of such a facility.

The introduced version of this bill was identical to HB1327.

C: Secretary of Administration

Date: February 10, 2015

File: H:\General Government\GENERAL ASSEMBLY\2015 Session\ELECT\Introduced\SB853\SB853ES1.docx