Department of Planning and Budget
2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1935

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

2. **Patron:** Carr

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

4. **Title:** Absentee voting; no-excuse, in-person available 21 days prior to election.

5. **Summary:** Allows any registered voter to vote by absentee ballot in person in any election in which he is qualified to vote without providing a reason or making a prior application for an absentee ballot. Absentee voting in person will be available in the office of the general registrar or the secretary of the electoral board and may be available at additional locations if approved by the local electoral board. The period for absentee voting in person will begin on the twenty-first day prior to any election and will end at 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately preceding the election. The bill retains the current provisions for voting absentee by mail, including the application process and list of eligibility reasons.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary**: No.

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** According to the Department of Elections (ELECT), the state fiscal impact of the proposed legislation would include $2,500 to implement one-time minor configuration changes to the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS) and $2,200 to update forms, web materials, and guidance documents. An additional printing cost for the full 4-page application is not required because a two-page electronic version is used for in-person absentee voting. The fiscal impact is expected to be minimal and can be absorbed within the agency's existing resources.

   As stand-alone legislation, the Department of Elections considers implementation of this bill as "routine," and does not require additional funding. The Department of Elections will review all electoral legislation likely to be enacted prior to the passage by each house. If the aggregate number of "routine" bills likely to pass either house is unusually large, it is possible that the Department of Elections will require additional resources. If so, the Department of Elections will identify the costs at that time.

   The proposed legislation is also expected to have a fiscal impact to the localities for administering absentee voting, providing staff, and facilities for in-person absentee voting; however, the projected local fiscal impact cannot be determined.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Elections and localities

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

11. **Other Comments:** This bill is a companion to Senate Bill 1002 (Ebbin).