

## Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB1256

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

**2. Patron:** Ebbin

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Third-party registration groups; registration and disclosure requirements.

**5. Summary:** Requires any individual or organization that will be distributing and collecting voter registration applications to register as a third-party registration group with the Department of Elections (the Department) prior to engaging in any voter registration activities. The Department is required to issue a unique identification number to each third-party registration group, and each group shall assign its volunteers and employees a separate identification number. The bill requires these identification numbers to be included on voter registration applications collected by the third-party registration group. The bill also requires third-party registration groups to maintain a record containing information about all volunteers and employees engaging in voter registration activities on behalf of the group.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes – Item 86.

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

**Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2017	\$0	0.00	-
2018	\$337,716	1.00	GF
2019	\$119,716	1.00	GF
2020	\$119,716	1.00	GF
2021	\$119,716	1.00	GF
2022	\$119,716	1.00	GF
2023	\$119,716	1.00	GF

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation is expected to have a fiscal impact of \$337,716 in fiscal year 2018 and \$119,716 in subsequent fiscal years. The fiscal impact includes the cost for one full-time voter registration group coordinator at an annual cost of \$87,716. The number of third-party registration groups is expected to be significant based on the number of requests received for voter registration applications. Because ELECT does not have the staff to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation, additional staff will be needed.

ELECT will also need additional funding for the development and implementation of a new system to register individuals and organizations as third-party groups at a one-time cost of

\$250,000 in fiscal year 2018. The annual hosting cost for the new system is projected to be \$32,000.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is similar to House Bill 1430 (Fowler), House Bill 1431 (Cole), and Senate Bill 871 (Chase).