

## Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB871-S1

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

**2. Patron:** Chase

**3. Committee:** Finance

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

**5. Summary:** Requires any individual or organization that obtains 25 or more voter registration applications from the Department of Elections (the Department), local electoral board, or general registrar's office shall be required to register with the Department as a third-party registration group. The bill requires volunteers and employees of third-party registration groups to register with the Department. 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, each of whom is required to receive training and to maintain a log of his registration activities to be submitted with all completed applications collected. The record shall be provided to the Department within five business days of the close of registration records and shall also be provided to the Department within three business days of such request. The bill prohibits the compensation of volunteers and employees on a per-application basis.

**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	\$87,716	1.00	GF
2019	\$87,716	1.00	GF
2020	\$87,716	1.00	GF
2021	\$87,716	1.00	GF
2022	\$87,716	1.00	GF
2023	\$87,716	1.00	GF

**8. Fiscal Implications:** According to the Department of Elections (ELECT), the proposed legislation is expected to have an annual fiscal impact of \$87,716 beginning in fiscal year

2018. The fiscal impact includes the cost for one full-time voter registration group coordinator to register individuals and organizations as third-party registration groups and oversee the submission of the records by third-party registration groups. The substitute of Senate Bill 871 requires any individual or organization that obtains 25 or more voter registration applications from ELECT, local electoral board, or general registrar's office to register with ELECT as a third-party registration group. Because the substitute bill limits the number of individuals and organizations that would be required to register as a third-party registration group, ELECT would no longer need a full-time voter registration trainer to provide training to the third-party registration groups as indicated in the fiscal impact statement for the introduced version of Senate Bill 871.

The fiscal impact statement of the introduced bill indicated ELECT would need additional funding for the development and implementation of a new system to register and assign a unique identification number to individuals and organizations as third-party registration groups at a one-time cost of \$250,000 in fiscal year 2018. The annual hosting cost for the new system was projected to be \$32,000. Because the substitute of Senate Bill 871 limits the number of individuals and organizations eligible to be registered as a third-party registration group; ELECT does not require funding to develop and implement a new system.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Elections, State Board of Elections, local electoral boards, and general registrars.

- 10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

- 11. Other Comments:** The bill is a companion to the substitute of House Bill 1430 (Fowler).