

## Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB710

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

**2. Patron:** Chase

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

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

**5. Summary:** Requires any individual or group 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 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 but prohibits rejection of an application for lack of an identification number. 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.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes – Item 83.

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

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2018			
2019	\$91,998	1	GF
2020	\$91,998	1	GF
2021	\$91,998	1	GF
2022	\$91,998	1	GF
2023	\$91,998	1	GF
2024	\$91,998	1	GF

**8. Fiscal Implications:** According to the Department of Elections (ELECT), the proposed legislation is expected to have an ongoing annual fiscal impact of \$91,998 beginning in fiscal year 2019. The fiscal impact includes the costs for one full-time voter registration group coordinator to register all persons volunteering with or employed by third-party registration

groups. The voter registration group coordinator would also provide training and oversee the reporting of information from third-party registration groups required by the bill.

The bill will require all persons volunteering with or employed by a third-party registration group to register with the Department as a volunteer or employee of that group and receive training approved by the State Board of Elections. Only the group or an individual is currently required to register and receive training when obtaining 25 or more voter registration applications. ELECT cannot determine the number of additional people that would need to register and receive training as a result of this bill, as this information is not currently tracked by the Department. However, ELECT currently has limited capacity to handle additional workload with its current staffing level. Therefore, an additional staff member is expected to be required to handle the additional workload associated with the bill. Registering all persons volunteering with or employed by third-party registration groups is the primary driver of the expected workload increase. The impact of the reporting requirements in the bill are not fully known and will depend on the requirements established by the State Board of Elections pursuant to the bill.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

Date: 1/23/2018