

Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1244-ER

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Reeves

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Voter registration; protected voter; foster parents.

5. Summary: Adds to the list of protected voters any person who has been approved to be a foster parent pursuant to law. Protected voters are permitted by law to provide on the application for voter registration, in addition to the voter's residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth, which would be the address included on (i) lists of registered voters and persons who voted, (ii) voter registration records made available for public inspection, and (iii) lists of absentee voter applicants.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill permits individuals who have been approved as foster parents to receive protected voter status, if requested.

According to the Department of Elections (ELECT), the bill would require modifications to the statewide Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS) to create a new category of protected voter for foster parents. ELECT reports the changes required to VERIS are estimated to cost approximately \$2,500, as currently identified. Additionally, other costs may be incurred related to changes needed for information released to local registers electronically, which remain unknown according to ELECT.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will need to facilitate the new protected voter category within its automated registration system. DMV has determined that this legislation will not result in a significant expenditure increase for the agency. DMV has estimated the hours that may be needed for staff to implement the legislation. The staff hours required can be accomplished during the normal work schedules for DMV employees, given current workloads. DMV would be able to absorb this cost within its existing resources assuming other legislative proposals with fiscal impacts to DMV do not pass. DMV's current fiscal outlook precludes funding the cumulative burden of implementing the programming and staffing requirements of multiple pieces of legislation without improved revenue streams.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Elections, Department of Motor Vehicles, and localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None.