Department of Planning and Budget
2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB2471

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

2. **Patron:** Batten

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

4. **Title:** General registrars; petition for removal.

5. **Summary:** Provides for the removal of a general registrar by the circuit court upon a petition signed by a majority of the members of the State Board of Elections or a majority of the members of the local electoral board. Currently, a local electoral board may remove a general registrar with a majority vote, while the State Board of Elections may petition the circuit court to remove a general registrar only after petitioning the local electoral board to remove the registrar and the electoral board fails to do so. The bill requires the Virginia Division of Risk Management to assign counsel to the defense of any member of a local electoral board or general registrar subject to a petition for removal, upon that member's or registrar's application.

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

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, no state fiscal impact.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the Department of Elections.

   Although this bill could lead to additional hearings in the circuit courts, it is expected that any additional hearings could be accommodated with current resources.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Elections, State Board of Elections, General Registrars, and circuit courts.

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

11. **Other Comments:** This bill is a companion to SB1514.

January 26, 2023