

## Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB2205

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

**2. Patron:** Comstock

**3. Committee:** Science and Technology

**4. Title:** Secretary of the Commonwealth; acceptance of certain electronic signatures.

**5. Summary:** The bill provides that non-salaried citizen members of policy and supervisory boards, commissions, and councils in the executive branch of state government, and local boards, commissions, and councils, may sign their disclosure forms using electronic signatures. In addition, the bill authorizes the Secretary of the Commonwealth to accept electronic signatures on applications for re-commissioning a notary or electronic notary.

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

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The fiscal impact of this bill cannot be determined at this point in time, but any costs are expected to be low and there is potential for savings. In terms of potential costs, the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Office (SOC) confirms that there may be start-up expenses to allow for the processing of electronic signature submissions. However, any costs for the implementation of computer system processing changes allowing these documents to be submitted electronically will be paid for by the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Technology Trust Fund. This fund is supported by fees for the commissioning of a notary public or electronic notary public and used to obtain and update office automation and information technology equipment, to preserve, maintain, and enhance records, and to improve public access to records. In terms of potential savings, the SOC also reports that the processing of electronic applications will likely result in an indeterminate amount of savings to be achieved related to administrative and filing efficiencies.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Secretary of the Commonwealth; All policy and supervisory boards, commissions, and councils in the executive branch of state government, and local boards, commissions, and councils.

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

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is identical to SB 1247.

**Date:** 1/20/11 dpb

**Document:** f: HB2205.doc