

Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB9

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: Cole

3. Committee: Passed both Houses

4. Title: Voting procedures; voter identification requirements, provisional ballots.

5. Summary: Eliminates the provision that allows a voter to sign a sworn statement that he is the named registered voter he claims to be in lieu of showing identification. The bill allows the voter without identification to vote an official ballot if he is recognized and acknowledged by an officer of election. Otherwise a voter without identification will be offered a provisional ballot and be told that he may submit a copy of one of the required forms of identification to the electoral board in person or by facsimile, electronic mail, or other means. The bill expands the list of acceptable forms of identification to include a valid student identification card issued by a Virginia four-year institution of higher education and certain other documents that show his name and address. Any voter whose name is marked on the pollbook as having already voted will be allowed to vote only by a provisional ballot.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Final Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8

8. Fiscal Implications: The State Board of Elections (SBE) indicates that this bill will have minimal impact on the agency. SBE must provide training efforts that would need to be provided to elections officials and voter outreach efforts necessary to inform voters of the law change. In addition, SBE would need to design another provisional ballot envelope to be used solely for voters without proper identification. SBE states that the agency will be able to absorb the costs associated with implementing this legislation

SBE indicates that this legislation may impact the localities. Registrars will need to train officers of election on how to implement the new standard. Also, localities will need to purchase new provisional ballots and may see additional provisional ballots because of the change. Some localities may need to purchase equipment that would fully allow for the process of receiving scanned and faxed versions of identification provided by voters.

While this legislation would create a second provisional ballot envelope, it would also eliminate the Affirmation of Identity form. This could partially offset some of the expenses for the new form for localities.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: SBE and local government

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: The bill is identical to Senate Bill 1.

Date: 3/12/2012