

Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB635

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

2. Patron: Vogel

3. Committee: Senate Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Senate Districts; technical adjustments.

5. Summary: The substitute for SB 635 makes technical changes in Senate Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 29, 30, 33, 36, 37, and 39 in order to eliminate split voting precincts and otherwise facilitate administration of legislative elections by local officials. All districts remain within two percent deviation of the ideal population.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No, see Item 8

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Tentative, see Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: Staff at the State Board of Elections (SBE) report that the SBE and the localities should be able to absorb any costs associated with this legislation. The costs associated with the proposed changes to the General Assembly voting districts should be offset by the cost savings of fewer split precincts. Split precincts make it more difficult for staff to report election results and more expensive because of the need for more local election officers and oftentimes, move voting equipment.

SBE staff also reported that a relatively small number of voters will need to be contacted as a result of this bill and many should be receiving new voter cards for other reasons prior to the next opportunity to vote in a General Assembly race. Section 24.2-307 of the Code of Virginia, does not require a voter to be informed of the change in their election district until at least 15 days before an election in which voters will be voting in that district.

Currently, there are no scheduled General Assembly races until 2013. If there is a Special Election, voters would be notified of any change to their District at least 15 days beforehand.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State Board of Elections, local election districts.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 2/13/2012

Document: g/12 Legislation review/SB635S1