

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB578

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: Simon

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Campaign finance; statewide and General Assembly candidates; personal use of campaign funds.

5. Summary: Campaign finance; statewide and General Assembly candidates; personal use of campaign funds; penalty. Prohibits statewide and General Assembly candidates from using campaign funds for their personal use. Personal use does not include the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding office. A violation is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The State Board of Elections indicates that this bill can be implemented with updates to forms and guidance and will be absorbed as part of the agency's annual updates.

Although insufficient data exists to determine the fiscal impact due to this proposal, the proposed legislation could result in an increase in the jail population since Class 1 misdemeanor outcomes can result in sentences of up to 12 months in jail (and a fine up to \$2,500). Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's FY 2012 Jail Cost Report (November 1, 2013), the estimated total state support for local and regional jails averaged \$30.06 per state inmate, per day in FY 2012.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State Board of Elections

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: January 17, 2014

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