

Department of Planning and Budget

2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB713

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: Campbell

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act and General Assembly Conflicts of Interests Act; publicly available database for statements of economic interests; civil penalties.

5. Summary: The bill requires the Secretary of the Commonwealth to establish a central database online and available to the public for statements of economic interests required by law to be filed by state and local government officers and employees and General Assembly members. The bill also sets civil penalties for failure to file and for incomplete filing of such statements.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: See item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Secretary of the Commonwealth (SOC) is the repository of conflict of interest filings for state government employees of the executive branch and for judges. The agency established an online portal in 2012 by which the employees (over 13,000) have the option to file online. This bill would require the SOC to create a searchable disclosure database, which it currently does not have. A firm estimate is not available at this time, but it is roughly estimated that such a database would cost around \$65,000 to develop and implement. Also, the bill would require the SOC to notify, in writing and within 14 days, those filers who are delinquent or who filed an incomplete statement. Due to the number of filers, it is very possible the SOC may have to add additional staff to meet this requirement. The SOC estimates one or two positions at roughly \$30,000 each position. With the refinement of these estimates, a budget amendment may be warranted.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Secretary of the Commonwealth.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.