

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1061-S2

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☒ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Obenshain

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Elections; electronic pollbooks; photographs.

5. Summary: Requires electronic pollbooks to contain a photograph and identifying information received by the State Board of Elections from the Department of Motor Vehicles for each registered voter for whom the Department of Motor Vehicles has such a photograph and identifying information. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall include with each photograph the date the photograph was created and shall provide identifying information concerning the height, color of hair, and color of eyes of the registered voter. The bill requires the officer of election to access the photograph and identifying information. The floor substitute added a provision that prohibits a list furnished under § 24.2-405, § 24.2-406, and § 24.2-444, Code of Virginia, to contain the photograph or identifying physical information of any registered voter. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2016.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary – see Item 8.

Expenditure Impact for the Department of Elections:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2015	\$0	0.00	-
2016	\$0	0.00	-
2017	\$157,734	0.00	GF
2018	\$106,460	0.00	GF
2019	\$106,460	0.00	GF
2020	\$106,460	0.00	GF
2021	\$106,460	0.00	GF

8. Fiscal Implications: In order to implement the requirements of Senate Bill 1061, the Department of Elections (ELECT) would have to make several changes to the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS), the Commonwealth's statewide voter registration system, which are estimated to cost \$30,000 in fiscal year 2017. The changes to VERIS are needed to cover the processes needed to create and accept the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) data, associate it to voters, and then extract and distribute the photos to 133 localities prior to each election. ELECT will also need to modify reports within VERIS to help the general registrars identify which voters have photos.

ELECT would also be required to download updated pictures from DMV's servers at least twice a year (prior to the statewide elections), which is estimated to cost \$41,780 annually (\$20,890 for each download). In some years, the data may need to be downloaded three times a year. Senate Bill 1061 would require programming and development of electronic pollbook software, which is estimated to cost \$14,960 in fiscal year 2017. ELECT also expects to incur additional costs for storage of the photographic images on the state's computer systems, which has an estimated annual cost of \$64,680. ELECT would also incur one-time costs for forms revisions and translation (\$2,200) and printing and distribution of new forms (\$4,114).

Finally, the replacement of existing electronic pollbooks that do not have the capacity to store and display photographs would also have to be funded. The State Board of Elections estimates that the purchase of laptops to replace the older units would cost approximately \$1.7 million. This estimate represents 3,672 pollbooks at a cost of \$465 each. The pollbooks would have to be replaced directly as a result of the legislation, rather than being replaced based on replacement/refreshment schedules. It is important to note that funding to replace the electronic pollbooks is included in the capital project to replace voting equipment statewide in House Bill 1400/Senate Bill 800. Item C-46.30 of the 2015 budget bill provides \$28.0 million of the Virginia Public Building Authority to fund the replacement of voting equipment statewide; which includes \$1.7 million to replace the electronic pollbooks. If the amendment to fund the replacement of voting equipment statewide is not approved, then the agency will require an additional \$1.7 million in fiscal year 2017 to replace the electronic pollbooks.

The legislation requires ELECT to enter into an agreement with DMV's credentials vendor, CBN, to obtain the photographs. The DMV will send the customer's hair color, eye color, and height in addition to the information DMV currently transmits to ELECT each month. The DMV estimates the information technology costs for changes to the DMV database to implement the provisions of this bill to be a one-time cost of \$37,800. The DMV expects to absorb the one-time implementation cost in fiscal year 2017. This estimate only reflects the costs to DMV to add a customer's hair color, eye color, and height to the monthly data exchange.

The provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2016; therefore; a budget amendment for ELECT is not required.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Elections; Department of Motor Vehicles; general registrars; and localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

c: Secretary of Administration
Secretary of Transportation