

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2015 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB1316-S1

**House of Origin**    ☐ Introduced    ☒ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed

**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Stanley

**3. Committee:** Courts of Justice

**4. Title:** Circuit court clerks; electronic records, fees, etc.

**5. Summary:** Makes various changes to the operations of circuit court clerks, including (i) allowing any agency or instrumentality of the Commonwealth to submit records in electronic form that comply with the security and data standards established by the Virginia Information Technologies Agency; (ii) providing that the state highway plat book kept in the clerk's office may be produced in paper, microfilm, or electronic form; (iii) providing that the clerk may set a convenience fee for electronic filing of civil or criminal proceedings that is lower than the convenience fee currently charged for payment by debit or credit card; and, (iv) providing that all unpaid fines and costs be docketed as a judgment against the defendant in favor of the Commonwealth.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The proposed bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact at the state level. The proposed bill allows each clerk to set a lower rate for convenience fees charged for electronic filing of civil or criminal proceedings. Currently, convenience fees shall not exceed four percent of the amount paid or a flat fee of \$2.00 per transaction. These fees are to be used by the clerk for office operating expenses.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Clerk offices statewide.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None

Date: February 9, 2015  
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