

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB418

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

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

**2. Patron:** Bagby

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Elections; absentee voting; no-excuse, in-person.

**5. Summary:** Allows qualified voters to vote absentee in-person without providing an excuse for not being able to vote in-person on election day. The bill retains the statutory list of specific reasons allowing a voter to cast an absentee ballot by mail.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** According to the Department of Elections (ELECT), the state fiscal impact of the proposed legislation would include \$2,500 to implement one-time minor configuration changes to the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS) and \$2,200 to update forms, web materials, and guidance documents. This bill would not require additional printing costs for the full 4 page application because a two page electronic version is used for in-person absentee voting.

As stand-alone legislation, ELECT considers implementation of this bill as “routine,” and does not require additional funding. The agency will review all electoral legislation likely to be enacted prior to the passage by each house. If the aggregate number of “routine” bills likely to pass either house is unusually large, it is possible the agency will require additional resources. If so, ELECT will identify the costs at that time.

The proposed legislation is also expected to have a fiscal impact to the localities for administering absentee voting, providing staff, and facilities for in-person absentee voting; however, the projected local fiscal impact cannot be determined.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Elections and localities.

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

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is identical to HB430 (Villanueva) and companion to SB106 (Dance).