

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1431

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

2. Patron: Cole

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Third-party registration groups; registration, disclosure, and recordkeeping requirements, etc.

5. Summary: Requires any individual or organization that will be distributing and collecting voter registration applications to register as a third-party registration group with the Department of Elections (the Department) prior to engaging in any voter registration activities. The bill requires volunteers and employees of third-party registration groups to register with the Department. The Department is required to issue a unique identification number to each third-party registration group, and each group shall assign its volunteers and employees a separate identification number. The bill requires these identification numbers to be included on voter registration applications collected by the third-party registration group. The bill also requires third-party registration groups to maintain a record containing information about all volunteers and employees engaging in voter registration activities on behalf of the group, each of whom is required to receive training and to maintain a log of his registration activities to be submitted with all completed applications collected. The bill prohibits the compensation of volunteers and employees on a per-application basis.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes – Item 86.

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

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2017	\$0	0.00	-
2018	\$457,432	2.00	GF
2019	\$207,432	2.00	GF
2020	\$207,432	2.00	GF
2021	\$207,432	2.00	GF
2022	\$207,432	2.00	GF
2023	\$207,432	2.00	GF

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Elections (ELECT), the proposed legislation is expected to have a fiscal impact of \$457,432 in fiscal year 2018 and \$207,432 in subsequent fiscal years. The fiscal impact includes the costs for two full-time equivalent positions, voter registration trainer and voter registration group coordinator, at an annual cost of \$175,432. The staff will provide training to the third-party registration groups, register

individuals and organizations, and oversee the submission of the weekly records by third-party registration groups. The number of third-party registration groups is expected to be significant based on the number of requests received for voter registration applications. Because ELECT does not have the staff to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation, additional staff will be needed.

ELECT will also need additional funding for the development and implementation of a new system to register individuals and organizations as third-party groups at a one-time cost of \$250,000 in fiscal year 2018. The annual hosting cost for the new system is projected to be \$32,000.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to House Bill 1430 (Fowler).