

Department of Planning and Budget

2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB960

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Spruill

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Absentee ballots; expediting counting of absentee ballots returned by mail prior to election day.

5. Summary: Provides that if a general registrar has opted to expedite the counting of absentee ballots returned by mail by opening the sealed ballot envelopes in accordance with law, the requirement that the absentee ballot return envelope and unopened ballot envelope be deposited into an appropriate container does not apply. Current law contains a contradiction that absentee ballot return envelopes and unopened ballot envelopes are to be deposited into an appropriate container while also allowing the sealed ballot envelopes to be opened so that they may be inserted into a ballot scanner machine or other secure ballot container.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. No Fiscal Impact

8. Fiscal Implications: None.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Elections, State Board of Elections, local electoral boards, and general registrars

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.