Department of Planning and Budget
2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB228

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

2. **Patron:** Cole

3. **Committee:** General Laws

4. **Title:** Virginia Public Records Act; records retained in electronic medium.

5. **Summary:** Provides that notwithstanding any provision of law requiring a public record to be retained in a tangible medium, an agency may retain any public record in an electronic medium, provided that the record remains accessible for the duration of its retention schedule and meets all other requirements of the Virginia Public Records Act (§ 42.1-76 et seq.). The bill provides that this provision shall not be deemed to affect any law governing the retention of exhibits received into evidence in a criminal case in any court.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary**: No

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Virginia Public Records Act (§ 42.1-76 et seq.) currently allows for agencies to digitize any paper records and keep only the electronic copy as official record. This bill, as written, simply reiterates that agencies have that option, and would not constitute any change to current policy.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** All state agencies that retain public records.

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

11. **Other Comments:** None.