

Department of Planning and Budget

2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB855

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Peace

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses.

4. Title: Landlord and tenant law; notice requirements; landlord's acceptance of rent with reservation.

5. Summary: This bill changes the landlord and tenant law notice requirements for landlords to accept full or partial rent while continuing to proceed with a court action to obtain an order of possession and subsequent eviction by creating a single notice and removing the requirement for second notice for the time period between entry of an order of possession and prior to eviction. The bill provides that the landlord may accept full or partial payment of rent and still receive an order of possession and proceed with eviction if the landlord states in the written notice to the tenant that any payment of rent, damages, money judgment, award of attorney fees, and court costs would be accepted with reservation and not constitute a waiver of the landlord's right to evict the tenant from the dwelling unit. The bill also provides that if a dwelling unit is a public housing unit or other housing unit subject to regulation by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, written notice of acceptance of rent with reservation need not be given to any public agency paying a portion of the rent under the rental agreement. Lastly, the bill states that if a landlord enters into a new written rental agreement with the tenant prior to eviction, an order of possession obtained prior to the entry of such new rental agreement is not enforceable.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Housing and Community Development has no oversight or administrative obligations regarding the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act. The department does update and publish on its website the Landlord Tenant Handbook. Any legislative changes made to the Act will be updated, but the department can do so using current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Housing and Community Development.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.