

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2018 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB944

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

**2. Patron:** Lopez

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Voter registration; preregistration for persons age 16 or older.

**5. Summary:** Permits a person who is otherwise qualified to register to vote and is 16 years of age or older, but who will not be 18 years of age on or before the day of the next general election, to preregister to vote. The preregistration does not entitle such a person to vote in any election except as already permitted by law. The bill requires the Department of Elections to maintain a record of all preregistered voters in the Virginia voter registration system, which shall automatically register a person who is preregistered upon that person's reaching 18 years of age. The bill requires the Department to provide to the general registrars voter confirmation documents for such voters.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill would require the Department of Elections (ELECT) to modify the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS) and Electronic Pollbook (EPB) software to accept and preregistrants at 16 years of age, automatically register them at age 18, and indicate their voting eligibility in the pollbook. ELECT estimates the one-time cost for these updates to be \$ 36,314: \$25,000 for changes to VERIS and EPB software, \$5,000 to recertify the EPB software, \$2,200 for changes to forms, web materials, and guidance documents, and \$4,114 to print and distribute new forms.

As stand-alone legislation, implementation of this bill is considered “routine” for ELECT and does not require additional funding. However, the Department of Elections 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 that the Department of Elections will require additional resources. If so, ELECT will identify the costs at that time.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

Date: 1/31/2018