

Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2764

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

2. Patron: Wilt

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Voter registration; persons assisting with completion or collection of completed applications.

5. Summary: Requires any person who assists an applicant with the completion of a voter registration application or collects a completed voter registration application directly from an applicant to provide his name and telephone number and indicate the group or organization with which he is affiliated, if any, on the registration application. The measure exempts from such requirement any state or local government employee who assists with the completion of registration applications or who collects completed registration applications as part of his official duties.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes – Item 83.

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

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2019	-	-	-
2020	\$65,000	-	General Fund
2021	-	-	-
2022	-	-	-

8. Fiscal Implications: This proposed legislation would require any person who assists an applicant with the completion of a voter registration application or collects a completed voter registration application directly from an applicant to provide his name and telephone number and indicate the group or organization with which he is affiliated, if any, on the registration application.

According to the Department of Elections (ELECT), significant changes to the citizen portal and the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS) would be required in order to capture and record the information of third parties that assist with registrations, assuming such requirements apply to both online and physical voter registration applications. ELECT estimates that changes would require a total of 500 hours of contractor work at a rate of \$130 per hour, a total of \$65,000 in one-time costs, based on the following:

- 150 hours to change the citizen portal to capture information for online applications,

- 175 hours to change the backend of VERIS to display and store the information for online applications, and
- 175 hours to change the backend of VERIS to display and store the information for physical applications.

This estimate does not include any potential increases in VITA costs for storage, which are unable to be calculated at this time.

ELECT would also need to reprint paper voter registration applications to include the entry of information for persons assisting with the completion or collection of registration applications, which is expected to be completed using existing resources.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: According to the Department of Elections, estimates for similar proposed legislation in the past did not include the assumption that third-party information associated with online voter registration applications would be captured and stored.