

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2019 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB1018

<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:** Chase

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Voters; review of assignments in districts throughout the Commonwealth.

**5. Summary:** Directs each county, city, and town to review the assignment of voters within its jurisdiction to ensure that voters are assigned to the correct districts. The electoral board and general registrar of each county, city, or town shall conduct this review by comparing the information in the voter registration system with the boundaries of the districts and precincts set out in a Geographic Information System (GIS) map of the locality and shall make corrections to incorrect assignments as necessary, assisted by the State Board of Elections upon request. The bill requires this review to be completed no later than the 2019 November general election. After the conclusion of its review and after making any necessary corrections, each locality is required to submit to the State Board a report of the results of its review and any corrections to voter assignments that were made. The State Board is required to report the statewide results to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 2020 Session.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Indeterminate; see Item 8.

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The bill requires the Department of Elections (ELECT) to provide GIS maps to every electoral board and general registrar and assistance for localities to review voter assignments with district and precinct boundaries, as requested. The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate as ELECT does not have a base line from which to estimate the frequency or extent to which electoral boards and general registrars may require its assistance in conducting reviews of voter assignments and the impact of providing such assistance is currently unknown.

ELECT does not currently maintain GIS maps of each county, city, or town to make available to electoral boards and general registrars. To obtain this information, the agency will have to develop GIS maps or obtain such information elsewhere. With the requirement that the review be completed prior to the November 2019 general election, ELECT anticipates that it will need to obtain GIS maps from a third party. Further information regarding available sources of GIS maps and any associated costs is unknown at this time.

ELECT currently has limited capacity to handle additional workload with its current staffing level. Therefore, an additional staff member may be required on a temporary basis to handle the additional workload who has the expertise needed to fulfill the provisions of the bill. According to ELECT, a GIS analyst would be needed on a temporary basis to facilitate the provision of GIS maps for localities and provide assistance to localities in conducting a review upon request. ELECT estimates a cost of \$49,560 to contract a GIS analyst from July through November, which is based on a 40-hour work week (21 weeks at a rate of \$59 per hour), for a total of 840 hours.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

Date: 1/15/2019