

Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1018-E

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<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 not later than the 2020 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 bill requires the State Board of Elections to report the statewide results to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 2021 Session. The provisions of the bill are contingent on funding in a general appropriations act.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes – Item 83.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2019	-	-	-
2020	\$49,560	-	General Fund
2021	-	-	-
2022	-	-	-

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. ELECT expects to incur one-time costs of approximately \$49,560 in order to contract a GIS analyst on a temporary basis to verify and make any necessary changes or updates to GIS maps to be provided to localities and provide assistance to localities, upon request.

ELECT does not currently maintain GIS maps of each county, city, or town to make available to electoral boards and general registrars. The agency believes it could obtain GIS maps from the Division of Legislative Services or localities at no cost. ELECT would subsequently verify the GIS maps received and make any necessary updates or other corrections.

ELECT currently has limited capacity to handle additional workload with its current staffing level. Therefore, additional temporary staff support is expected to be needed to handle the additional workload and provide the necessary expertise to fulfill the requirements of the bill. According to ELECT, a contract GIS analyst would be hired on a temporary basis to facilitate the verification and provision of GIS maps to localities and provide assistance to localities in conducting their reviews, upon request. ELECT estimates a one-time cost of \$49,560 in fiscal year 2020 to contract a GIS analyst for a total of 840 hours, equivalent to a 40-hour work week for a 21-week period, assuming a rate of \$59 per hour.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.