

Department of Planning and Budget

2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1497

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

2. Patron: Ebbin

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Campaign contribution limits; civil penalty.

5. Summary: Prohibits a person, other than a political party committee or political action committee, from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$2,500 to any one candidate for the General Assembly or \$5,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General in any single calendar year. Political action committees are prohibited from making any single contribution or any combination of contributions that exceeds \$5,000 to any one candidate for the General Assembly or \$10,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General in any single calendar year. No limits are placed on contributions made by political party committees, the candidate, or the candidate's family to the candidate's campaign. Civil penalties for violations of the limits may equal up to two times the excess contribution amounts.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: As stand-alone legislation, the Department of Elections considers implementation of this bill as “routine,” and does not require additional funding. However, the agency 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 the agency will require additional resources. If so, the Department of Elections will identify the costs at that time.

The Department of Elections would establish procedures for campaign finance reports and educate candidates and campaign committees on compliance with the requirements of the bill.

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.