

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB591-S1

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

2. Patron: Vogel

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Post-election risk-limiting audits.

5. Summary: The substitute bill directs the State Board of Elections to establish a work group to develop standards and procedures for conducting post-election audits to confirm the accurate reporting of election results. The work group, through the State Board, shall submit to the Governor and General Assembly an interim progress report by January 7, 2019, and a final report by December 1, 2019, of the process and procedures for conducting any recommended post-election audit and legislative proposals for implementing such recommendations. The bill also repeals the current law regarding risk-limiting audits in § 24.2-671.1, Code of Virginia.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The substitute bill requires the State Board of Elections (ELECT) to establish a work group to develop standards and procedures for conducting any recommended post-election audit and report its final findings, including legislative proposals for implementing such recommendations, by December 1, 2019. As stand-alone legislation, ELECT 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, 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: This bill is a companion to HB 1210.

Date: 2/9/2018