

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1055

<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:** Levine

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Virginia Redistricting Commission; created.

**5. Summary:** The bill establishes the Virginia Redistricting Commission (the Commission). The Commission, tasked with establishing districts for the United States House of Representatives and for the Senate and the House of Delegates of the General Assembly, will consist of eight legislative commissioners and eight citizen commissioners. The legislative commissioners consist of four members of the Senate of Virginia and four members of the House of Delegates, with equal representation given to the political parties having the highest and next highest number of members in their respective houses. The citizen commissioners are chosen by a selection committee consisting of five retired judges of the circuit courts of Virginia, from lists submitted to the selection committee by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, the leader in the House of Delegates of the political party having the next highest number of members in the House of Delegates, the President pro tempore of the Senate of Virginia, and the leader in the Senate of the political party having the next highest number of members in the Senate. The Commission is required to submit to the General Assembly plans of districts within certain time periods, and the General Assembly may reject initial plans and provide information to the Commission regarding the reasons for rejecting such plans. The General Assembly is limited in its ability to amend plans until multiple plans have been submitted and rejected. The bill sets out criteria by which the districts are to be drawn, including equal population, racial and ethnic fairness, contiguity, and compactness. Provisions to ensure public participation in the redistricting process are included.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** See item 8.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** As is common with most legislative commissions and councils, the identifiable fiscal impacts are to the House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia, the agencies that will be responsible for the compensation of the Commission and its members. With an expectation of up to ten meetings per year, the Senate estimates the compensation of its four legislative members to be \$12,000 annually. The House, having the same number of members, estimates \$12,000 per year as well.

While the above costs are identifiable, there are unknown costs. The bill does not assign responsibility for staffing of the Commission, so further impacts to these and other agencies are possible. With the high number of anticipated meetings, staffing costs will be higher than most legislative commissions or councils, as most average only four meetings per year.

It should also be noted that the bill does not address the responsible party or parties for covering general expenses of its members. As an aid to understand the potential impact of these costs, the Division of Legislative Services indicates the bill could present an impact approaching \$40,000 for the Commission to cover the mileage, lodging, meals, and incidental expenses of the 16 Commission members, as well as the per diems allowed to the 8 nonlegislative citizen members.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** The Virginia Redistricting Commission, the House of Delegates, and the Senate of Virginia.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.