

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1645

<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 Citizens Redistricting Commission; establishes.

**5. Summary:** The bill establishes the Virginia Citizens Redistricting Commission (the Commission), a 10-member commission responsible for proposing legislative and congressional districts following a decennial census, to be submitted to and approved by the General Assembly. A selection committee consisting of five retired judges of a circuit court in Virginia, selected by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, the minority leader in the House of Delegates, and the majority and minority leaders in the Senate from a list compiled by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia, is tasked with adopting a process by which registered Virginia voters may apply to serve on the Commission and selecting from the applicants a list of 22 candidates. The bill requires five of the candidates to be voters who affiliate with the political party receiving the highest number of votes for governor at the immediately preceding gubernatorial election, five candidates to be voters who affiliate with the political party receiving the next highest number of votes for governor at the immediately preceding gubernatorial election, and 12 candidates to be voters who do not affiliate with any political party. The Speaker of the House of Delegates, the minority leader in the House of Delegates, and the majority and minority leaders in the Senate then strike names from the list until there is the final list of 10 Commission members, three of whom affiliate with the political party receiving the highest number of votes for governor at the immediately preceding gubernatorial election, three of whom affiliate with the political party receiving the next highest number of votes for governor at the immediately preceding gubernatorial election, and four of whom do not affiliate with any political party. To be submitted to the General Assembly, a proposed plan is required to receive an affirmative vote of seven of the 10 Commission members, including at least one vote from each of the political parties represented. Initial plans submitted to the General Assembly are not subject to amendment, but if submission of subsequent plans is necessary, such plans may be amended in the same manner as other bills.

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

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The bill presents costs for member compensation and the reimbursement of necessary and customary expenses. These costs are roughly estimated at \$400 per member per meeting, but the number of meetings is unknown at this time, so an overall amount is indeterminate. These costs are assumed to be paid from the appropriations provided to the Commission.

The bill assigns the Division of Legislative Services (DLS) to provide logistical and technical support, and while the agency anticipates the ability to absorb these costs within its existing appropriation, DLS indicates the agency will incur reimbursable costs related to travel expenses, including overnight accommodations if meetings are held outside of Richmond. The bill is silent for who will provide general and administrative staffing.

It should be noted that \$1,069,500 per year is provided in Item 479 of House Bill 30 to support the needs of a Virginia Redistricting Commission and associated costs.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** The Virginia Citizens Redistricting Commission; the Division of Legislative Services.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.