

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB45

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: Spruill

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Absentee voting; no excuse required.

5. Summary: Permits any registered voter to vote by absentee ballot in any election in which he is qualified to vote. The bill removes the current list of statutory reasons under which a person may be entitled to vote by absentee ballot and removes references to those reasons from other sections of the Code.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No state fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation is not expected to have a state fiscal impact.

The bill allows any registered voter to vote by absentee ballot by mail or in-person without an excuse. This change is not expected to have a fiscal impact on the Department of Elections, as similar procedures implemented pursuant to Chapters 668 and 669 of the 2019 Acts of Assembly will be capable of meeting the proposed legislation's requirements. Chapters 668 and 669 of the 2019 Acts of Assembly allow no-excuse in-person voting during the period beginning the second Saturday immediately preceding any election, effective with the general election on November 3, 2020.

Localities are responsible for conducting elections, including absentee voting by mail or in-person voting, and would be responsible for any potential impact of changes necessary to facilitate the proposed voting process.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar or identical to HB1, HB25, HB209, SB111, and SB879.

Date: 1/14/2020