

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB617

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

2. **Patron:** Deeds

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

4. **Title:** Absentee voting; voter satellite offices for absentee voting in person.

5. **Summary:** Authorizes the establishment of voter satellite offices by governing bodies of counties and cities for purposes of absentee voting in person. No change in any voter satellite office, including the creation of a new voter satellite office or abolishment of an existing voter satellite office, may be enacted within the 60 days immediately preceding a general election. The bill requires general registrars to post notice of the locations of all voter satellite offices within the locality, and their days and hours of operation, not later than 55 days prior to any election. Requirements for polling places, including accessibility for persons with disabilities, changes of location due to emergency circumstances, and funding, apply to voter satellite offices. The provisions of the bill are applicable to elections beginning with the general election on November 3, 2020.

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.

Satellite offices are currently allowed by law pursuant to Chapters 668 and 669 of the 2019 Acts of Assembly, effective with the general election on November 3, 2020, and localities are currently responsible for the cost of any satellite offices established.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** The Department of Elections and local general registrars.

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

11. **Other Comments:** None.

Date: 1/14/2020