

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB215

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

**2. Patron:** Lopez

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Voter registration; preregistration for persons age 16 or older.

**5. Summary:** Permits a person who is otherwise qualified to register to vote and is 16 years of age or older, but who will not be 18 years of age on or before the day of the next general election, to preregister to vote. The preregistration does not entitle such a person to vote in any election except as already permitted by law. The bill requires the Department of Elections to maintain a record of all preregistered voters in the Virginia voter registration system, which shall automatically register a person who is preregistered upon that person reaching 18 years of age or becoming eligible for advance registration as already permitted by law, whichever comes first. The bill requires the Department to provide to the general registrars voter confirmation documents for such voters.

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

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary; see Item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The proposed legislation is expected to require the Department of Elections (ELECT) to modify the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS) in order to accept and pre-register persons at 16 years of age automatically. Once the age of 18 is achieved or the individual will turn 18 prior to the next election, the individual would be included in the electronic poll book.

ELECT's preliminary estimate of the one-time cost to make the required changes is \$58,500 based on an estimated 450 hours at \$130.00 per hour provided by contractors. ELECT currently has limited capacity to absorb the additional workload with its current staffing levels. Anticipated systems changes include, but are not limited to, Web Service setup (change to remove "required" fields, add any new fields, make any needed changes to the transformation account for new fields, add or change any process required as the registration comes in, and changes to VERIS (hoppers and batch reports to accommodate any changes to the data received).

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Elections, State Board of Elections, general registrars, and localities.

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

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is a companion to SB92.

Date: 1/27/2020