

## Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB568

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:** Stuart

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:** Campaign finance; prohibited contributions to candidates; civil penalty.

**5. Summary:** Prohibits any public utility from making any contribution to any committee or otherwise provide any money any other thing of value, given, advanced, loaned, or in any other way provided to any person or committee for the purpose of influencing the outcome of an election. The bill creates a civil penalty for violation of the prohibition of three times the amount of the contribution or \$10,000, whichever is greater, payable to the State Treasurer for deposit to the general fund. The bill provides that any registered voter of the Commonwealth may file a petition with an appropriate circuit court for enforcement of these provisions.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** See Item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** As stand-alone legislation, the Department of Elections considers implementation of this bill as “routine,” and does not require additional funding.

The bill provides a civil penalty for violations of the prohibition of three times the amount of the contribution or \$10,000, whichever is greater. Penalties shall be deposited in the general fund. Any potential revenue impact from the assessment of civil penalties is indeterminate.

According to the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court, the proposed bill is not expected to have a material fiscal impact on the court system.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Elections, State Board of Elections, Circuit Courts, and localities (General Registrars and Electoral Boards).

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

Date: 1/31/2022