

Department of Planning and Budget 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2161

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Williams

3. Committee: Committee on General Laws

4. Title: Local government; standardization of public notice requirements for certain intended actions.

5. Summary: Standardizes the frequency and length of time that notices of certain meetings, hearings, and other intended actions of localities must be published in newspapers and other print media. The notice provisions included in the bill are organized into the following three groups: (i) publication required one week before the meeting, hearing, or intended action; (ii) publication required two consecutive weeks before the meeting, hearing, or intended action; and (iii) publication required three consecutive weeks before the meeting, hearing, or intended action. In addition, the bill amends provisions related to the content of notices for zoning ordinances and amendments to such ordinances by removing the requirement that such notices contain a descriptive summary of the proposed action and providing that such notices shall include the street address or tax map parcel number of the parcels subject to the action. In cases where the intended action affects more than 25 parcels, the notice must also include the approximate acreage subject to the intended action. The bill also removes the requirement that notices of proposed amendments to a zoning map state the general usage and density range of the proposed amendment and the general usage density set forth in the applicable part of the comprehensive plan. The bill directs the Virginia Code Commission to convene a work group to continue review of the notice requirements throughout the Code of Virginia and requires the Virginia Code Commission to submit a report to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology summarizing the work and any recommendations of the work group by November 30, 2023. This bill is a recommendation of the Code Commission.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No state fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill is not expected to have a state fiscal impact.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Virginia Code Commission.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: Companion to SB1151