

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB780

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Morrissey

3. Committee: General Laws and Technology

4. Title: Casino gaming; eligible host cities; limitation on local referendums.

5. Summary: Adds Petersburg to the list of cities eligible to host a casino in the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that when an eligible host city is located within 25 miles of another eligible host city, the governing body of any such city that holds a local referendum on the question of whether casino gaming should be permitted in such city that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another local referendum on the same question until the other eligible host city has had a reasonable opportunity, not to exceed the date of the 2023 regular general election unless a court of competent jurisdiction sets an alternative date, to hold a local referendum on the same question.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No, see item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation is not expected to have an impact on state expenditures. Current appropriation for the Virginia Lottery provides adequate staffing and spending authority to oversee five casinos. Beyond this, additional staffing and operational spending would be necessary.

A casino opening in Petersburg would positively impact state nongeneral fund revenue. For example, it was estimated by the 'Gaming in the Commonwealth' JLARC report (2019) that a casino opening in Richmond would generate \$58,310,000 in gaming tax revenue in fiscal year 2025. Such revenue collections would be deposited into the Gaming Proceeds Fund.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Lottery, Petersburg, and other localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is a companion to HB1373.