



House Appropriations

Contacts:

Chair: Del. Roslyn Tyler – 804.698.1075

DelRTyler@house.virginia.gov

Del. David Bulova – 804.698.1037

DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov

Del. Delores McQuinn – 804.698.1070

DelDMcQuinn@house.virginia.gov

Del. Betsy Carr – 804.698.1069

DelBCarr@house.virginia.gov

Del. Lashrecse Aird – 804.698.1063

DelLAird@house.virginia.gov

Del. Nick Rush – 804.698.1007

DelNRush@house.virginia.gov

Del. Glenn Davis – 804.698.1084

DelGDavis@house.virginia.gov

Del. Robert Bloxom – 804.698.1100

DelRBloxom@house.virginia.gov

Senate Finance Contacts:

Chair: Sen. Chap Petersen

804.698.7534

District34@senate.virginia.gov

Sen. Stephen Newman – 804.698.7523

District23@senate.virginia.gov

Sen. Louise Lucas – 804.698.7518

District18@senate.virginia.gov

Sen. Jill Holtzman Vogel

804.698.7527

District27@senate.virginia.gov

Sen. Mamie Locke – 804.698.7502

District2@senate.virginia.gov

Sen. Adam Ebbin – 804.698.7530

District30@senate.virginia.gov

Local Fiscal Impacts from 2020 Elections Legislation

Issue Brief

The General Assembly and Administration have prioritized making significant changes to election accessibility in Virginia, introducing a number of bills that will change the way localities conduct elections. However, none of the fiscal impact statements (FISes) prepared by state agencies account for the extensive costs localities will face as a result.

Bills of Interest

Each of the following bills will have a fiscal impact on localities. Collectively, minimum preliminary estimates for these bills run well over \$20 million in Fiscal 2021 alone.

- [HB1 \(Herring\)/SB111 \(Howell\)](#): No-excuse absentee voting
- [HB198 \(Price\)](#): Special elections for tie votes
- [HB201 \(Ayala\)](#): Same-day voter registration
- [HB220 \(Krizek\)](#): Prepaid postage for mail-in ballots
- [HB761 \(VanValkenburg\)](#): Preclearance for certain localities
- [HB1053 \(Levine\)](#): Voter-verifiable paper records

Recommendation

Localities need help from the state to ensure that elections run as smoothly as possible in light of these introduced policy changes.

Reach out to relevant members of the General Assembly's money committees to support increased funding for localities to implement this year's elections changes.

- The Governor's 2020 Introduced Budget includes **\$5 million** across the biennium to fully fund the salaries of general registrars statewide.
- At the request of VML and VACo, Senator Deeds has introduced budget amendment language ([Item 86, #6s](#)) to reallocate **federal funds from the Help America Vote Act (HAVA)** to assist localities meet statewide election security standards.
- Senator Deeds has also introduced a budget amendment ([Item 86, #12s](#)) for **\$10 million** across the biennium to help localities implement early voting measures.