

**Department of Planning and Budget
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

PUBLISHED: 1/16/2025 10:49 AM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB 994 **Patron:** Graves
Bill Title: Elections; general provisions; prohibited area; 100 feet.

Bill Summary: Increases from 40 feet to 100 feet the areas around polling places, certain electoral board meetings, and recount locations within which certain activities or conduct are prohibited.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** N/A
Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: There is an indeterminate fiscal impact as a result of the provisions of this bill.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill is expected to have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the state. The provisions of §24.2-604 increase the restricted area around polling places, certain electoral board meetings, and recount locations from 40 feet to 100 feet, within which certain activities or conduct are prohibited. Individuals who violate §24.2-604 may be charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both. There is insufficient information to reliably estimate the potential increase in jail populations or revenue for the Literary Fund as a result of this proposal. However, any increase in jail population would result in higher costs to the state. The Commonwealth currently reimburses localities \$5.00 per day for each misdemeanor or otherwise local-responsible prisoner held in jail. Additionally, the state covers a significant portion of local jails' operating costs, such as correctional officers. The state's contribution to these costs on a per-prisoner, per-day basis varies by locality. According to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2024), the estimated average state support for local jails was \$56.38 per inmate per day in FY 2023.

Other: Similar legislation includes HB 1938