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

PUBLISHED: 1/17/2025 11:21 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB 1174 **Patron:** Suetterlein
Bill Title: Elections; prohibited activities; distribution of referendum materials.

Bill Summary: Adds 'referendum' to the description of materials that are prohibited from being distributed within certain areas while voting and registration activities are being conducted.

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

Fiscal Summary: There is an indeterminate fiscal impact to the state.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill is expected to have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the state. The provision to §24.2-604 adds 'referendum' to the description of materials that are prohibited from being distributed within certain areas while voting and registration activities are being conducted. The current prohibited distance is 40 feet. 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 misdemeanant 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: N/A