

**Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB8 **Patron:** Ware
Bill Title: General Assembly; intergovernmental affairs.

Bill Summary: Provides for the selection by the General Assembly of delegates to attend a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States held pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States. The bill grants the General Assembly the power to recall delegates, appoint new delegates, and convene an advisory committee to oversee the conduct of delegates. The bill provides that delegates must take an oath to adhere to the instructions of the General Assembly and any delegate who votes or otherwise acts beyond the authority granted in such instructions is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** None
Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate. The provisions of this bill establish guidelines for the General Assembly for selection of delegates in the event of a constitutional convention. The bill states that any delegates chosen will receive the same compensation as a House of Delegates member. It is unknown when or how often the provisions of this bill will come into effect, so it is not possible to determine the costs associated with it.

By creating two new Class 5 felony offenses and expanding the application of existing perjury statutes or other “penalties provided by law,” the proposal may increase the state-responsible (prison) bed space needs of the Commonwealth. However, the proposal would only be applicable if there is a Constitutional Convention proposed by the state legislatures. Given the process that would be necessary for a Constitutional Convention to occur, any potential impact associated with the proposal would likely occur beyond the six-year forecast window required by § 30-19.1:4.

Fiscal Analysis: See Fiscal Summary

Other: Similar to SB527 from 2024 General Assembly Session