

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB34

Patron: Favola

Bill Title: Incapacitated persons; finding of lack of capacity to understand act of voting.

Bill Summary: Provides that a finding that a person is incapacitated in a proceeding for guardianship or conservatorship shall not be synonymous with a finding that such person is 'mentally incompetent,' as such term is used in relevant law, and therefore not qualified to vote in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Virginia. The bill provides that no person shall be deemed disqualified to vote due to a lack of capacity for the purposes of the Constitution of Virginia unless a court makes a specific finding by clear and convincing evidence that such person lacks the capacity to understand the act of voting.

Budget Amendment Necessary: N/A

Items Impacted: N/A

Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: There is an indeterminate fiscal impact to Courts due to the provisions of this bill, Elections does not expect a fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the Department of Elections as a result of the provisions of this bill. According to the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (OES), this bill may lead to more petition hearings, which would increase the workload of courts. However, it is not possible to estimate the increase at this time. Therefore, the fiscal impact of this provision is indeterminate. Any fiscal impact this bill may have on clerks of the court is not known at this time. The fiscal impact will be updated if more information is provided.

Other: HB1014