

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

PUBLISHED: 2/2/2026 4:23 PM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB966

Patron: Price

Bill Title: Elections; duties of the Department of Elections; Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program).

Bill Summary: Provides that the Department of Elections' use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program) operated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is for the sole purpose of individually verifying that voters listed in the Virginia voter registration system are United States citizens. The Department of Elections is prohibited from (i) using information received from the SAVE Program as the sole reason for rejecting a registration application, (ii) uploading lists of registered voters to the SAVE Program for verifying their citizenship status in bulk, or (iii) transferring any information to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any subdivision thereof beyond the minimum information necessary.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: Item 77

Explanation: See below

Fiscal Summary: There will be an anticipated state fiscal impact to the Department of Elections as a result of the provisions of this bill.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
The Department of Elections		\$122,681	\$122,681	\$122,681	\$122,681	\$122,681
TOTAL		\$122,681	\$122,681	\$122,681	\$122,681	\$122,681

Position Impact:

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Fiscal Analysis: This bill will require the Department of Elections (ELECT) to modify how information from the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program) operated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is used to include uploading of information. The request for the bill does not require additional funding except for the prohibition on uploading lists of registered voters to the SAVE Program in bulk. The use of bulk uploads is an extremely valuable tool as ELECT can receive up to 2,000 SAVE verifications within one month. If ELECT is prohibited from using the bulk upload ELECT staff individually would have to key in documents for lookup. ELECT current staffing could not support this function and ELECT would need at a minimum one position at a fully loaded personnel cost of \$109,756 plus ancillary cost of \$12,925. This will be a continuing cost.

Other: N/A