

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB113E

Patron: Helmer

Bill Title: Elections; offenses; soliciting or accepting bribe to influence or procure voter registration; penalty.

Bill Summary: Provides that no person shall solicit or accept directly or indirectly any money or anything of value to influence his or another's decision to register to vote. The bill also provides certain exceptions to the prohibitions on soliciting or accepting bribes to influence a person to vote or to register to vote.

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. The Department of Elections and Circuit Courts both stated no fiscal impact, but the bill does expand applicability of a Class 1 misdemeanor which may cause the state a fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: As stand-alone legislation, the Department of Elections considers implementation of this bill as "routine," and does not require additional funding. Circuit Courts also do not anticipate a fiscal impact from the provisions of this bill.

Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor 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 not enough information available to reliably estimate the increase in jail population as a result of this proposal. However, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth currently pays localities \$5.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local-responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds a large portion of the jails' operating costs, e.g., correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2025), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$58.25 per inmate, per day in FY 2024.

Other: N/A