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

PUBLISHED: 2/11/2026 1:28 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB612ER **Patron:** Cohen
Bill Title: Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); marriage between two adult persons; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition.

Bill Summary: Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election to approve or reject an amendment that requires the equal treatment under the law of a lawful marriage between two adult persons regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The amendment also repeals the current provision that defines marriage as only a union between one man and one woman.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** Item 77
Explanation: See Below

Fiscal Summary: There is an anticipated fiscal impact to the Department of Elections due to the provisions of this bill.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031
The Department Elections	-	$205,000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		**$205,000**				

Fiscal Analysis: The Department of Elections (ELECT) estimates the cost to meet the requirements of section 30-19.9 of the Code of Virginia is $205,000. ELECT is required to run advertisements in state newspapers and prepare posters and pamphlets providing public notice about statewide referendums.

Other: Similar legislation includes SB311.