

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

Fiscal Analysis: This bill requires the Department of Elections (ELECT) to process information it receives and update the voter registration system to allow individuals who are incarcerated to register to vote by their scheduled date of release. ELECT will need to make changes to the voter registration system to permit people to register to vote by the scheduled date of release. The voter registration system will need adjustments to receive information from multiple state agencies by the required date. ELECT estimates its cost to be \$50,400 based on the need to employ multiple contractors for approximately 480 hours at a cost of \$105 per hour to implement. This is a one-time cost. Based on timing and other actions outside of ELECT, funding may be required prior to July 1.

The bill also creates a fiscal impact for the Virginia Department of State Police (VSP). The bill requires modification to the file transmitted from VSP to the Virginia Department of Elections. Information technology (IT) costs are estimated based on the number of sprints required to make the modification as well as the cost of IT developers and project management staff. The breakdown of the costs to VSP are provided below.

Item 415	Year One Cost	Year Two Cost
IT development costs	\$165,000.00	\$33,000.00
Total	\$165,000.00	\$33,000.00
Total Year One Cost	\$165,000.00	
Total Year Two Cost	\$33,000.00	
Total All	\$198,000.00	

The provisions of the bill include mandates that would require the Board of Local and Regional Jails (BLRJ) to absorb additional unfunded responsibilities. Local and regional jails will also incur increased administrative overhead and operational investments to ensure compliance. Additionally, there is a risk that the IT infrastructure required to comply with the bill’s mandates will not be fully operational before the January 1, 2027, effective date.

The BLRJ requires significant initial and recurring annual appropriations to fund 3 new FTEs responsible for the collection of data from local and regional jails on an ongoing basis and produce twice monthly reports to the Department of Elections. The costs associated with IT systems, training, and outreach may range between \$250,000 – \$400,000. Three FTEs will be required, (1) Data Analyst to manage the twice-monthly reports \$125,837 in FY27 and \$127,986 in FY28, (1) Compliance Coordinator to ensure adherence with the new requirements, \$131,454 in FY27 and \$133,717 in FY28 also (1) Systems Administrator will be necessary to maintain data collection and reporting systems, \$127,985 in FY27 and \$130,178 in FY28. The total estimated

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salary expense is \$381,275 in the first year and \$391,880 in the second year. Salary figures include fringe benefits and assume a 2% raise in both years.

The Circuit Courts of Virginia expect an indeterminate fiscal impact due to the provisions of this bill. It is unknown how many cases would need to be processed at this time. The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles stated they do not expect a fiscal impact due to the provisions of this bill.

Other: Same legislation as SB162H1. Funding for the legislation is provided for by the House and the Senate through amendments. Amendments 77 #2s and 77 #5h provide funding to the Department of Elections to meet the provisions of the bill. Amendment 415 #3h provides funding to Virginia State Police to meet the provisions of HB964.