



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

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**Fiscal Analysis:**

There is an anticipated fiscal impact to the Department of Elections due to the changes to the Voting Rights Act of Virginia (The Act). Revised provisions of the Voting Rights Act of Virginia include the population thresholds for a locality to be designated as a covered locality for purposes of minority language accessibility. Current law designates a locality as a covered locality if, in the locality, (a) more than five percent of the voting age population or (b) more than 10,000 of the voting age population are members of a single language minority and are unable to speak or understand English adequately enough to participate in the electoral process; the bill reduces those thresholds from five to three percent and from 10,000 to 5,000. Currently the Department of Elections (ELECT) is required to provide voter material in three languages (Spanish, Vietnamese, and Korean) other than English to approximately seven percent of the state localities. The requirement of covered localities may increase the requirement to fifteen percent of the state based on reductions of the threshold by approximately 50%. Currently printing the required information costs approximately \$15,000, doubling the potentially covered localities, would cost ELECT an additional \$15,000 per year.

**Other:** Funding was proposed through House amendment 77 #7h to effectuate the provisions of this bill.