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

PUBLISHED: 3/16/2026 9:43 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB658S2 **Patron:** Rouse
Bill Title: Voter registration; automatic voter registration.

Bill Summary: Secretary of Administration; work group on automatic voter registration. Directs the Secretary of Administration to convene a work group for the purpose of studying the implementation of back-end, opt-out automatic voter registration. The work group will include representatives of the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, and the Office of the Attorney General, in addition to members of the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections, general registrars, and organizations advocating for or working on voting rights and data privacy. The work group is tasked with considering the effectiveness, efficiency, and security of back-end, opt-out automatic voter registration as compared to Virginia's current front-end, opt-out process, and identifying the costs and benefits of moving to such a system.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** N/A
Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: There is an indeterminate fiscal impact due to the provisions of this bill. The House of Delegates and Senate of Virginia have expressed an indeterminate fiscal impact. The Department of Motor Vehicles, the Office of the Attorney General, the Department of Elections, and the Virginia Information Technology Agency do not expect a fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: The provisions of the substitute legislation create a workgroup for the purpose of studying potential statutory improvements to the current partial automatic voter registration system (AVR). The current costs for the workgroup are indeterminate. The House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia expect an indeterminate fiscal impact. The number of members of the Committees on Privileges and Elections is unknown, however the estimated cost per meeting will be approximately $300 for compensation and $397 for travel per member. The Department of Motor Vehicles, The Office of the Attorney General, and the Virginia Information Technology Agency do not expect a fiscal impact. The Department of Elections no longer expects a fiscal impact due to the provisions of the substitute legislation.

Other: Same legislation as HB319H1.