

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1534

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Sickles

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

4. **Title:** Elections; challenges to voter or voter's registration; challenges to candidate qualifications.

5. **Summary:** Eliminates the process by which any voter could challenge, in a polling place on the day of an election, the right of any other voter to cast a ballot. The bill also eliminates the process by which any three voters could challenge a voter's registration before the general registrar; such challenges may still be made by filing with the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond a petition stating the petitioner's objections to such voter's registration. The bill also requires challenges to a person's eligibility to appear on the ballot on the basis that such person did not meet all qualifications or fulfill all requirements for candidacy to be made at least 60 days before the date of the election. Candidates who are nominated at a primary election cannot be later challenged on the basis of facts that were present prior to the primary election and could have been raised in a challenge to such candidate's eligibility for the primary ballot. Any challenge to a candidate's qualifications or eligibility shall be made by filing a petition with the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond, which shall have jurisdiction over such proceedings.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary; no state fiscal impact.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** As stand-alone legislation, the proposed legislation is not expected to have a state fiscal impact. Accumulation of changes could require additional resources.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Elections, State Board of Elections, and localities (General Registrars and Electoral Boards).

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

11. **Other Comments:** None.

February 13, 2024