

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB623

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

2. Patron: Price

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Rights of voters; covered practices, civil cause of action, standing, jurisdiction, and venue.

5. Summary: The proposed bill provides that, in addition to voters who are members of a protected class and the Attorney General, any organization whose membership includes voters who are members of a protected class or any organization whose mission, in whole or in part, is to ensure voting access shall be entitled to institute a civil cause of action for alleged violations of certain laws related to the rights of voters. The bill provides that the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond shall have jurisdiction over such actions and such actions shall be subject to expedited pretrial and trial proceedings and receive an automatic calendar preference. The bill also adds to the definition of "covered practice" any change that reduces the number of voter satellite offices in a locality or reduces the number of days or the hours of operation of a voter satellite office in a locality.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: See Item 8 below.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary (see Item 8).

8. Fiscal Implications: The Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court is still assessing the fiscal impact the bill may have on agency operations. If additional information becomes available, this statement will be revised.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Courts.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.