

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB193

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

2. Patron: Minchew

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Virginia Freedom of Information Act; participation in meetings, emergency or personal matters.

5. Summary: The bill removes the requirement that a public body approve by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting the remote participation in the meeting by one of its members. The bill instead requires the public body to approve by a majority vote a policy allowing participation of its members by electronic communication. Once adopted, the public body shall apply this policy uniformly to its entire membership, without regard to the identity of the member requesting remote participation or the matters that will be considered or voted on at the meeting.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill's changes are policy in nature and present no fiscal impact to state government operations.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Any local governing body, school board, or any local authority, board, or commission.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: The bill is similar to House Bill 789.