

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB444

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Virginia Freedom of Information Act; meetings conducted through electronic meetings.

5. Summary: Amends existing provisions concerning electronic meetings by keeping the provisions for electronic meetings held in response to declared states of emergency, repealing the provisions that are specific to regional and state public bodies, and allowing public bodies to conduct all-virtual public meetings where all of the members who participate do so remotely and that the public may access through electronic communications means. Definitions, procedural requirements, and limitations for all-virtual public meetings are set forth in the bill, along with technical amendments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No Impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The provisions of this bill are not expected to create an additional fiscal impact on state agencies.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All state agencies and other public bodies covered by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: Identical to SB214.

Date: 1/19/2022