

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB540

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

2. **Patron:** Roem

3. **Committee:** Passed Both Houses

4. **Title:** Driver's license; extension of validity.

5. **Summary:** This bill extends (i) from three years to six years the period for which a driver's license extension may be granted to certain persons in service to the United States government and (ii) from one year to two years the period for which a driver's license extension may be granted for good cause shown.

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

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See Item #8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** Members of the military and certain individuals may currently request an extension of their Virginia driver's license. (Commercial driver's licenses are not eligible for extensions.) Those eligible for service extensions include: active duty members of the U.S. military who are deployed outside of Virginia and plan to return; members of the U.S. diplomatic service who are serving outside of the U.S.; civilian employees of the U.S. government, or any agency or contractor serving outside of the U.S. on behalf of the U.S. government; and, the spouses and dependents of any of these individuals. Upon receipt of required documentation, one extension may be granted and will be valid for three years. A driver whose license is extended is given an extension card to carry with the expired license. This card indicates that the extension is valid for up to three years, or for 180 days after the driver returns to Virginia, whichever occurs first. For other individuals meeting certain statutorily prescribed criteria, a "hardship" extension is also currently available for one year.

This legislation would double the time periods for service extensions and hardship extensions to six years and two years, respectively, easing the burden on these populations. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) does not charge for the service extensions available under § 46.2-221.2(A) and charges a \$10 fee for the hardship extensions available under § 46.2-221.2(B). However, because only a single extension is permitted under § 46.2-221.2(B), there is no anticipated fiscal impact related to the collection of fees.

The agency estimates that system programming changes and testing for this proposal will require 366 hours, at a cost of \$26,440, which can be accomplished with existing staff during regular work hours.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Motor Vehicles.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.