

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0469-01
Bill No.: HB 158
Subject: Elections; General Assembly
Type: Original
Date: February 23, 2007

Bill Summary: This proposal requires election costs for primary and general elections to be paid by the state.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
General Revenue	\$0	(\$14,080,000)	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	(\$14,080,000)	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

☒ Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Local Government	\$0	\$14,080,000	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume the state's financial obligation for elections would increase substantially. The SOS presently reimburses counties for the cost of special elections. This proposed legislation would require that primary and general election costs be paid by the state as well, unless a local jurisdiction would have something on the ballot and would share the cost.

The primary and general elections include costs for election judges, ballot printing, stationary/supplies, postage, training, poll rent, telephone and computer for all counties and indirect expenses. There is a state primary and general election every two years, with the gubernatorial primary and general election occurring every four years. The next primary election will be August 5, 2008 and the next general election will be November 4, 2008 both in fiscal year 2009. SOS assumes the average cost per voter is \$2.56 per voter and that there are 4 million voters in Missouri. SOS assumes that 3 million of them will vote in the general election. SOS assumes that 2.5 million voters will vote in the primary.

Therefore SOS has calculated the cost to be: at a \$2.56 per voter, the primary would cost \$6,400,000 and the general election \$7,680,000. Every four years, both elections are held. Total cost for the elections in Fiscal Year 2009 would be \$14,080,000.

Oversight assumes that this proposal would require the state to pay for all primary and general elections. Currently costs are shared with the local election authority. This proposal would be a savings to the local election authority and a cost to General Revenue. The cost would occur only in the even numbered elections years (FY 2009, FY 2011, etc.).

Officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Elections Commission** assume this proposal would shift the financial burden of holding elections for state and federal candidates in General election years to where it rightfully belongs: the entity calling the election, the State of Missouri. They assume a cost of \$350,000 to \$400,00 per election transferred to the State.

Officials at **Nodaway County** state they spent \$35,553 in August and \$28,185 in November due to the state having an election.

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** assume no fiscal impact from this proposal.

Officials at the **Office of Administration** assume no fiscal impact to their agency from this

proposal.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2008 (10 Mo.)	FY 2009	FY 2010
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GENERAL REVENUE

<u>Cost</u> - Secretary of State Election Costs	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$14,080,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON
GENERAL REVENUE FUND**

<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$14,080,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2008 (10 Mo.)	FY 2009	FY 2010
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**LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITY
FUNDS**

<u>Savings</u> - Local Election Authorities Election Costs	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$14,080,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON
LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITY
FUNDS**

<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$14,080,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Currently, the state is not liable for the costs of a general or primary election held in even-numbered years. This bill repeals this provision and requires election costs for general and primary elections to be paid by the state.

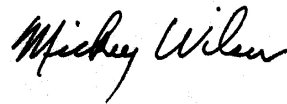
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

JH:LR:OD (12/06)

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Office of the Secretary of State
Office of Administration
St. Louis County Board of Elections Commission
Nodaway County
Platte County Board of Election Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mickey Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
February 23, 2007