

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 4103-03  
Bill No.: HCS for HB 1497  
Subject: Attorney General, State, Elections, Governor and Lt. Governor, Secretary of State  
Type: Original  
Date: February 5, 2010

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Bill Summary: Requires special elections to fill vacancies in the offices of Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Auditor and State Treasurer.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</b>

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

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

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

☐ 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).

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Governor** assume no impact as long as there are no statewide elected official vacancies.

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume that a special election would be called for the purpose of replacing a statewide office holder. If a special election is called to elect the office holder, section 115.063.2 RSMo requires the state to pay the costs.

**Oversight** has reflected in this fiscal note, the state potentially reimbursing local political subdivisions the cost of having a statewide election voted on during a special election in each fiscal year. This reflects the decision made by the Joint Committee on Legislative Research, that the cost of the elections should be shown in the fiscal note. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a potential election cost reimbursement to local political subdivisions in each of the fiscal years.

To estimate the expense the state would incur for reimbursing local political subdivisions for a special election, Oversight requested expense estimates from all election authorities for an election. Eighty-six out of the one hundred fifteen election authorities responded to Oversight's request. From these respondents; the total election expense that would have to be reimbursed by the state government is over \$7 million. Therefore, **Oversight** will reflect a potential cost borne by the state in each fiscal year of over \$7 million for reimbursement to the local political subdivisions.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2011 (10 Mo.)	FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Expense</u> - reimbursement of local political subdivisions for special election costs	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,000,000</u> )	<u>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</u>	<u>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<u><b>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</b></u>	<u><b>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</b></u>	<u><b>\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)</b></u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2011 (10 Mo.)	FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS</b>			
<u>Income</u> - cost reimbursement from the State for special election	\$0 or More than \$7,000,000	\$0 or More than \$7,000,000	\$0 or More than \$7,000,000
<u>Expense</u> - cost for special election	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

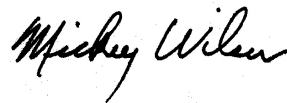
Currently, the Office of United States Senator and most statewide offices, except for the Office of the Governor, may be filled by a gubernatorial appointment when there is a vacancy. This bill requires special elections to be held for vacancies in the offices of United States Senator, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Auditor, and State Treasurer. If there is an impeachment proceeding for one of these officers, the Governor will temporarily administer the duties of the office until the trial; and if there is a conviction, the special election process will be used to fill the vacancy. In the case of a vacancy in the Office of the Attorney General or the Office of the State Auditor, the Governor will appoint a temporary acting attorney general or auditor who will serve until a special election for the office is held.

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

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the Governor  
Office of the Secretary of State

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

Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
February 5, 2010