

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 6543-01
Bill No.: HB 2271
Subject: Elections
Type: Original
Date: April 4, 2014

Bill Summary: This proposal changes the laws regarding elections.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
General Revenue	\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$1,538,400)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$670,500)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$1,341,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$1,538,400)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$670,500)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$1,341,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 7 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
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 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Local Government*	\$0	\$0	\$0

* Transfer In and costs net to zero.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume this proposal requires local election authorities to establish one advance voting center in each state senatorial district in the state, or if a state senatorial district contains more than one county, in each county located in such senatorial district. The advance voting period shall begin on the seventh Tuesday immediately preceding an election and end on the first Tuesday immediately preceding an election, excluding weekends. This proposal's provisions extend to all elections except for local, special district, and municipal elections. The SOS assumes this proposal's requirements extend to primary and general elections only.

Based upon the requirements in this proposal, several election authorities may be required to provide additional advance voting centers because of the number of senatorial districts within their jurisdiction. That is 116 advance voting centers, plus 14 additional advance voting centers in jurisdictions with more than one senatorial district. Assumptions Include:

- Each advance voting center may be staffed by two election judges paid \$9 per hour for 9 hours a day for the 31 weekdays that it will be open for voting – a total of \$652,860 per election.
- Election authorities would incur ongoing costs for maintenance of the 14 additional advance voting centers, including rent, utilities, and broadband internet service, in the approximate amount of \$1,260 per voting location for one month or a total of \$17,640 per election.

Thus, the fiscal impact of ongoing costs and of the staffing required for these advance voting centers would be \$670,500 per election. Election authorities would also incur one-time costs in FY 2015 for the purchase of equipment necessary for the 2014 General Election advance voting centers, including accessible voting machines for disabled voters, laptop computers and printers. Assumptions Include:

- 1 accessible voting machine per site= \$5,000
- 2 laptop computers per site= \$1,600
- 1 printer per site= \$7,500

\$14,100 per advance voting site multiplied by 14 voting sites= \$197,400 initial startup costs.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** assume there would be costs for part time staff members, extra count teams, extra ballots, legal notices for a estimated cost of \$10,150 per election.

Officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Election Commission** assume they would be required to open seven satellite sites. They estimate annual costs for the location, paper and labor costs to be \$1,737,892 per election. They estimate the non-recurring start up costs to be \$1,195,678.

Oversight assumes this proposal states that all election costs associated with advance voting would be paid by General Revenue subject to appropriation. Oversight has shown the transfer out of General Revenue to the local election authorities for the payment of advance voting as \$0 (no appropriation) or greater than the estimates provided by SOS. Oversight assumes all money received by the local election authorities will be used to pay for the costs of this proposal and therefore the local costs will net to zero.

In Fiscal Year 2015, the SOS would pay all the start up costs estimated to be \$197,000. Additionally there are two elections as a cost of \$670,500 per election for a total of \$1,538,400. In Fiscal Year 2016 there is one election that would need to be reimbursed at a cost of \$670,500. In Fiscal Year 2017 there are two elections for a total of \$1,341,000.

Officials at the following board of election commissions: Kansas City Board of Election Commission, St. Louis City Board of Election Commission, Clay County Board of Election Commission and the Jackson County Board of Election Commission did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

Officials at the following counties: Andrew, Audrain, Barry, Bates, Boone, Buchanan, Callaway, Camden, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Cole, Cooper, DeKalb, Franklin, Greene, Holt, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Laclede, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, New Madrid, Nodaway, Ozark, Perry, Pettis, Phelps, Platte, Pulaski, Scott, St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Francois, Taney, Warren, Wayne and Worth did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Transfer Out</u> - to local election authorities for reimbursement of advance voting costs	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$1,538,400</u>)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$670,500</u>)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$1,341,000</u>)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$1,538,400</u>)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$670,500</u>)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$1,341,000</u>)

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITY FUNDS			
<u>Transfer In</u> - from General Revenue for reimbursement of advance voting expenses	\$0 or Unknown greater than <u>\$1,538,400</u>	\$0 or Unknown greater than <u>\$670,500</u>	\$0 or Unknown greater than <u>\$1,341,000</u>
<u>Cost</u> - advance voting costs	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$1,538,400</u>)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$670,500</u>)	\$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$1,341,000</u>)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITY FUNDS	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

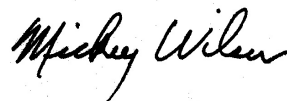
Requires each local election authority to establish one advance voting center in each senatorial district in the state or at least one center in each county in a senatorial district if there is more than one county in a senatorial district. Any registered voter may vote by advance ballot in person at any election for a federal or statewide office. Advance voting will begin on the seventh Tuesday prior to the election until the first Tuesday immediately preceding the election, excluding weekends. Voting will be from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.

The Secretary of State and each local election authority must provide adequate public notice of the advance voting centers and voting times including a posting at each local election authority's respective office and on the web site of each authority that maintains a web site. No statement of the person's reason for voting an absentee ballot will be required as is currently required to vote by absentee ballot. All current procedures for casting and counting absentee ballots and the appointment of election judges and polling places will apply to advance voting. All costs associated with advance voting centers must be reimbursed by the state. If there is no appropriation, an election authority must not conduct advance voting.

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

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



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
April 4, 2014

L.R. No. 6543-01
Bill No. HB 2271
Page 7 of 7
April 4, 2014

Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
April 4, 2014

JH:LR:OD