

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 6543-02  
Bill No.: HCS for HB 2271  
Subject: Elections  
Type: Original  
Date: April 8, 2014

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Bill Summary: This proposal changes the laws regarding elections.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

| <b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>       |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| FUND AFFECTED   | FY 2015  | FY 2016  | FY 2017  |
| General Revenue   | \$0 or (Unknown greater than \$1,025,184)        | \$0 or (Unknown greater than \$244,692)        | \$0 or (Unknown greater than \$489,384)        |
|   |  |  |  |
| <b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b> | <b>\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$1,025,184)</b> | <b>\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$244,692)</b> | <b>\$0 or (Unknown greater than \$489,384)</b> |

| <b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>              |            |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED   | FY 2015    | FY 2016    | FY 2017    |
|   |            |            |            |
|   |            |            |            |
| <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 7 pages.

| <b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>                  |            |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED   | FY 2015    | FY 2016    | FY 2017    |
|   |            |            |            |
|   |            |            |            |
| <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 2015  | FY 2016  | FY 2017  |
|   |          |          |          |
|   |          |          |          |
| <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 2015    | FY 2016    | FY 2017    |
| <b>Local Government*</b>                   | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> |

\* 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 county of the state, or at least one advance voting center for every one hundred thousand people in population reasonable distributed throughout such county. The advance voting period shall begin on the third Saturday immediately preceding an election and end on the first Tuesday immediately preceding an election, excluding Sundays. This proposal's provisions 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 based upon the population of the election jurisdiction. That is 116 advance voting centers, plus 38 additional advance voting centers in jurisdictions. Assumptions Include:

- Each advance voting center may be staffed by two election judges paid \$9 per hour for 9 hours a day for the 9 days that it will be open for voting – a total of \$167,040 per election.
- Election authorities would incur ongoing costs for maintenance of the 38 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 \$47,880 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
- TOTAL STARTUP PER SITE = \$14,100

\$14,100 per advance voting site multiplied by 38 voting sites= \$535,800 initial startup costs.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

In response to the previous version of this proposal, officials at the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** assumed 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.

In response to the previous version of this proposal, officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Election Commission** assumed 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 calculated by Oversight. 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.

**Oversight** assumes this proposal reduces the number of days and hours the polling places are to remain open for advance voting. Oversight assumes this proposal only requires the polls to remain open 71 hours. Therefore, Oversight has recalculated the FTE costs to be \$196,812 based on the 154 polling places and 71 hours of operation (71 hours of operation x \$9 per hour x 2 election judges = \$1,278 per polling place, \$1,278 x 154 polling places = \$196,812). Oversight will use the \$196,812 as the FTE costs for the fiscal note.

In Fiscal Year 2015, the SOS would pay all the start up costs estimated to be \$535,800. Additionally there are two elections at a cost of \$489,384 for a total of \$1,025,184. In Fiscal Year 2016 there is one election (Presidential Primary) that would need to be reimbursed at a cost of \$244,692. In Fiscal Year 2017 there are two elections for a total of \$489,384.

Officials at the following boards 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,

ASSUMPTION (continued)

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<br>(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>\$1,025,184</u> ) | \$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$244,692</u> ) | \$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$489,384</u> ) |
|---|---|---|---|

|  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | <b>\$0 or<br/>(Unknown greater than <u>\$1,025,184</u>)</b> | <b>\$0 or<br/>(Unknown greater than <u>\$244,692</u>)</b> | <b>\$0 or<br/>(Unknown greater than <u>\$489,384</u>)</b> |
| <b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b> |   |   |   |

|   |                     |         |         |
|---|---------------------|---------|---------|
| <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u> | FY 2015<br>(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 \$1,025,184 | \$0 or Unknown greater than \$244,692 | \$0 or Unknown greater than \$489,384 |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

|                                    |   |   |   |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                                    | \$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$1,025,184</u> ) | \$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$244,692</u> ) | \$0 or (Unknown greater than <u>\$489,384</u> ) |
| <u>Cost</u> - advance voting costs |   |   |   |

**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

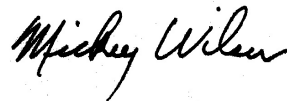
Requires each local election authority to establish one advance voting center in each county and for every 100,000 people in population in the county. Any registered voter may vote by advance ballot in person at any election for a federal or statewide office. Advance voting will begin on the third Saturday prior to the election until the first Tuesday immediately preceding the election, excluding Sundays. 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

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

Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
April 8, 2014

Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
April 8, 2014