

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0996H.03C  
Bill No.: HCS for HB 507  
Subject: Elections; County Officials  
Type: Original  
Date: March 6, 2025

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to elections.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>				
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>Fully Implemented (FY 2030)</b>
General Revenue	(\$8,737)	(\$21,389)	(\$32,276)	(\$56,746)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$8,737)</b>	<b>(\$21,389)</b>	<b>(\$32,276)</b>	<b>(\$56,746)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>				
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>Fully Implemented (FY 2030)</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

- ☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- ☐ Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### Sections 115.125, 115.127, 115.277, 115.284, 115.430, 115.453 and 115.635- Modifies provisions relating to elections

Officials from the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** state this bill adds 3 class three election offenses in section 115.635. These offenses are equivalent to misdemeanors. As misdemeanors fall outside the purview of the Department of Corrections, the legislation in this section will have no impact on the department.

The bill also specifies that if a violation of the three more offenses in section 115.635 results in death or bodily injury to an election official or a member of the official's family, the offense shall be a class B felony.

Given the seriousness of class B felony offenses and the introduction of a completely new class B felony offense is a rare event, the department assumes the admission of one person per year to prison following the passage of the legislative proposal.

Offenders committed to prison with a class B felony as their most serious sentence, have an average sentence length of 9.0 years and serve on average, 3.4 years in prison prior to first release. The department assumes one third of the remaining sentence length could be served in prison as a parole return, and the rest of the sentence could be served on supervision in the community.

The cumulative impact on the department is estimated to be 5 additional offenders in prison and 4 additional offenders on field supervision by FY 2034.

**Change in prison admissions and probation openings with legislation-Class B Felony**

	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FY2034	FY2035
<b>New Admissions</b>										
Current Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After Legislation	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Probation</b>										
Current Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After Legislation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Change (After Legislation - Current Law)</b>										
Admissions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Probations										
<b>Cumulative Populations</b>										
Prison	1	2	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Parole						1	2	3	4	4
Probation										
<b>Impact</b>										
Prison Population	1	2	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Field Population						1	2	3	4	4
<b>Population Change</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>

\* If this impact statement has changed from statements submitted in previous years, it could be due to an increase/decrease in the number of offenders, a change in the cost per day for institutional offenders, and/or an increase in staff salaries.

If the projected impact of legislation is less than 1,500 offenders added to or subtracted from the department's institutional caseload, the marginal cost of incarceration will be utilized. This cost of incarceration is \$28.73 per day or an annual cost of \$10,485 per offender and includes such costs as medical, food, and operational E&E. However, if the projected impact of legislation is 1,500 or more offenders added or removed to the department's institutional caseload, the full cost of incarceration will be used, which includes fixed costs. This cost is \$100.25 per day or an annual cost of \$36,591 per offender and includes personal services, all institutional E&E, medical and mental health, fringe, and miscellaneous expenses. None of these costs include construction to increase institutional capacity.

DOC's cost of probation or parole is determined by the number of P&P Officer II positions that are needed to cover its caseload. The DOC average district caseload across the state is 51 offender cases per officer. An increase/decrease of 51 cases would result in a cost/cost avoidance equal to the salary, fringe, and equipment and expenses of one P&P Officer II. Increases/decreases smaller than 51 offender cases are assumed to be absorbable.

In instances where the proposed legislation would only affect a specific caseload, such as sex offenders, the DOC will use the average caseload figure for that specific type of offender to calculate cost increases/decreases.

	# to prison	Cost per year	Total Costs for <b>prison</b>	Change in probation & parole officers	Total cost for <b>probation and parole</b>	# to probation & parole	Grand Total - Prison and Probation (includes 2% inflation)
Year 1	1	(\$10,485)	(\$8,737)	0	\$0	0	(\$8,737)
Year 2	2	(\$10,485)	(\$21,389)	0	\$0	0	(\$21,389)
Year 3	2	(\$10,485)	(\$32,726)	0	\$0	0	(\$32,726)
Year 4	2	(\$10,485)	(\$44,507)	0	\$0	0	(\$44,507)
Year 5	2	(\$10,485)	(\$56,746)	0	\$0	0	(\$56,746)
Year 6	2	(\$10,485)	(\$57,881)	0	\$0	1	(\$57,881)
Year 7	2	(\$10,485)	(\$59,039)	0	\$0	2	(\$59,039)
Year 8	2	(\$10,485)	(\$60,220)	0	\$0	3	(\$60,220)
Year 9	2	(\$10,485)	(\$61,424)	0	\$0	4	(\$61,424)
Year 10	2	(\$10,485)	(\$62,653)	0	\$0	4	(\$62,653)

Officials from the **Office of Attorney General (AGO)** assume any potential litigation costs arising from this proposal can be absorbed with existing resources. The AGO may seek additional appropriations if the proposal results in a significant increase in litigation or investigation costs.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight assumes the AGO will be able to perform any additional duties required by this proposal with current staff and resources and will reflect no fiscal impact to the AGO for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** and the **Office of the State Public Defender** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Officials from the **Kansas City Election Board** state if this legislation passes there could be a cost savings in security that they are required to have during every election.

**Oversight** will not reflect the savings in the fiscal note because we do not know how many Election Authorities have security.

Officials from the **Jackson County Election Board**, the **Platte County Board of Elections** and the **St. Louis County Board of Elections** each assume no fiscal impact from this legislation.

#### Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and

regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT</u> – State Government	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>				
<u>Cost – DOC</u> (\$115.635) Increased Incarceration Costs	(\$8,737)	(\$21,389)	(\$32,276)	(\$56,746)
<b>ESTIMATED TOTAL NET EFFECT TO GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b>(\$8,737)</b>	<b>(\$21,389)</b>	<b>(\$32,276)</b>	<b>(\$56,746)</b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT</u> – Local Government	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

#### FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

### FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill allows a notice of election to be sent by email.

The bill moves the filing dates for a declaration of candidacy in certain political subdivisions and special districts back by one week, from the 17th Tuesday prior to the election until the 14<sup>th</sup> Tuesday prior to the election, to the 16th Tuesday prior to the election until the 13th Tuesday prior to the election.

Currently, covered voters eligible to register to vote may vote in certain elections by submitting a federal postcard application to apply to vote at their polling place. This bill changes this requirement from the polling place to the office of the election authority on election day.

Currently, interstate former residents and new residents may vote absentee for presidential and vice-presidential electors. This bill allows them to vote for those electors at the office of the election authority on election day.

This bill provides that all lists of absentee ballot applications for people with permanent disabilities will be kept confidential and must not be posted or displayed in an area open to the general public nor shown to any unauthorized person.

Currently, a provisional ballot can be cast only in a state or federal election. This bill allows a provisional ballot to be cast in any public election.

The bill provides that votes for write-in candidates must only be counted for candidates who have filed a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, even if no candidate has filed for that office.

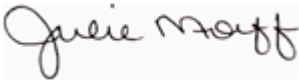
This adds the following activities to class III election offenses:

- (1) Threatening to harm or engaging in conduct reasonably calculated to harass an election official or a member of their family;
  - (2) Attempting to pressure an election official or member of their family to violate a provision of election law;
  - (3) Disseminating through any means the personal information of an election official or member of their family for the purpose of threatening to harm or attempting to pressure the official or member of their family to violate a provision of election law.
- If a violation results in death or bodily injury to an election official or a member of their family, the offense is a class B felony.

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

Attorney General's Office  
Department of Corrections  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Office of the State Public Defender  
Jackson County Election Board  
Platte County Board of Elections  
Kansas City Election Board  
St. Louis County Board of Elections



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