

Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 07-1583/2		Introduction Number AB-0126	
Description Relating to: creating an Elections Division in the Office of the Secretary of State and transferring the functions of the Elections Board to the division, other than functions relating to campaign financing			
Fiscal Effect			
State:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
Local:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs			
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs		3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected			
<input type="checkbox"/> Towns		<input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities	
<input type="checkbox"/> Counties		<input type="checkbox"/> Others	
<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts		<input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
Fund Sources Affected		Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.510, 20.575			
Agency/Prepared By ELB/ Kevin Kennedy (608) 266-8005		Authorized Signature Kevin Kennedy (608) 266-8005	Date 3/9/2007

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

ELB 3/9/2007

LRB Number	07-1583/2	Introduction Number	AB-0126	Estimate Type	Original
Description Relating to: creating an Elections Division in the Office of the Secretary of State and transferring the functions of the Elections Board to the division, other than functions relating to campaign financing					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This legislation establishes an election division in the office of the Secretary of State. All election-related functions of the State Elections Board or its successor, the Government Accountability Board, are transferred to the new division. The division operates under the management of a division administrator who serves outside the classified service.

The division administrator is appointed by the elected, partisan Secretary of State and serves at the pleasure of the Secretary of State. The division administrator and all employees of the division are required to be non-partisan.

The division administrator has the duties of the executive director of the Elections Board with respect to the administration and management of elections. The division administrator serves as the chief election official of the state. The division administrator also assumes the duties of the Chair of the Elections Board with respect to the canvass and certification of state and federal election results. The division administrator assumes the duties of the Elections Board with respect to issuing compliance review orders, conducting investigations, initiating litigation and intervention in pending election-related litigation.

The legislation does not add any additional administrative costs except the initial costs of transition and any loss in key staff as a result of the determination by the Secretary of the Department of Administration on which agency employees have election or campaign finance responsibilities.

Transition costs consist of relocation of current election-related staff and the administrative costs related to converting financial, information technology and administrative rules to new state templates.

For the purposes of estimating relocation costs it is assumed that each permanent and temporary employee would cost \$500 to relocate. This cost covers moving all furniture, files and equipment associated with the individual. Given 40 current permanent and temporary employees that cost would be \$20,000. The relocation costs do not include the set up and cabling of division employee offices and work stations.

Key staff will need to set up new financial transaction templates in the state recordkeeping, purchasing and accounting systems. New information technology adjustments such as website and e-mail addresses will have to be completed under the direction of key division staff. Legal staff will have to submit new administrative rule changes to reflect the transfer of the election-related duties to the division.

The current agency has five GPR-funded individuals whose primary duties focus on election administration, but include campaign finance responsibilities: the executive director, legal counsel, agency operations director, financial specialist and receptionist. There are only three-GPR funded employs whose primary duties focus solely on election administration. There are currently 3 LTE employees who provide election administrative support. An additional 29 employees are currently funded with HAVA money.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

None