

Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 11-1542/1		Introduction Number SB-116	
Description The dates of the September primary and certain other election occurrences and absentee voting			
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs			
Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Towns <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts			
Fund Sources Affected		Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations	
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS			
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

GAB 6/8/2011

LRB Number	11-1542/1	Introduction Number	SB-116	Estimate Type	Original
Description The dates of the September primary and certain other election occurrences and absentee voting					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Description

The dates of the September primary and certain other election occurrences and absentee voting

Fiscal Impact Statement

The Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) would need to be modified to eliminate the use of the terms "September Primary" and "September Primary – Governor" and replace them with "Partisan Primary." Election types are located in drop down lists in election set up wizards and in absentee application forms in the SVRS. The Government Accountability Board's (G.A.B.) technical staff would need to update the election types to reflect the changes in this bill.

Activity	Hours	# of Staff	Rate	Item Total	Category	Total
SVRS Modifications	8	2	90	\$1,440		
SVRS User Acceptance Testing	24	1	40	\$960	\$2,400	

Forms and Materials Revision

The G.A.B. staff is reviewing all forms and manuals due to the passage of 2011 Wisconsin Act 23 related to Voter ID. During this review, staff will identify any forms that contain the language "September Primary" and update the form to read "Partisan Primary." Since all forms are already being reviewed, the fiscal impact will be minimal; however there may be forms that require updates because of AB-161 that would not have otherwise been updated.

Election manuals that will need to be updated include:

- Absentee Voting in Nursing Homes, Community-Based Residential Facilities and Qualified Retirement Homes (Manual)
- Election Day Manual
- Election Day Voter Registration Manual
- Military and Overseas Voting Manual
- Election Administration Manual
- SVRS Application Training Manual

AB-161 instructs the G.A.B. to create uniform instructions for all absentee electors. The creation of a new form is priced in the chart below.

Activity	Hours	# of Staff	Rate	Item Total	Category	Total
Update G.A.B. Forms - Staff Cost	13	1	35	\$455		
SVRS Material Updates - Staff Cost	45	1	35	\$1,575	\$2,030	

Local Impact

The requirement that any elector may request that his/her absentee ballot be sent electronically will have an impact on those municipalities that do not have scanners or fax machines. Some local election officials use personal computers and other forms of technology that is not financially supported by the local government. The requirement that absentee ballots must be transmitted electronically at the request of the voter will add costs to the local government to either purchase the equipment needed to transmit an electronic ballot or to permit the local election official to travel to a neighboring municipality or county seat for use of that technology. Currently, there are about 150 Wisconsin municipalities that do not have internet access and a number of municipalities that do not have high speed internet.

Moving the Partisan Primary to August will have an effect on the number of absentee ballots issued. College students whose primary residence is the city in which they attend school are often absent for the summer. The effect of this bill could be either an increase in absentee voting, an increase in costs for municipal clerks, or a decrease in voting by college students. However, since school will still not be in session, there will still be a number of summer travelers who will vote absentee, increasing costs for municipal clerks.

Holding the Partisan Primary in August may also affect the availability of poll workers. Since August is in the summer, there may be poll workers who are unavailable. Municipalities may need to increase the hourly rate of poll workers to create an interest in serving. The training of new poll workers and certifying a new chief inspector through the G.A.B. will also be a cost to the municipality.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Total Local projected cost: Indeterminate
Total G.A.B. projected cost: \$4,430.00