

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

ELB 9/10/2003

LRB Number	03-1899/2	Introduction Number	AB-486	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Require state agencies to act on applications for approvals within periods established by rule					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This legislation requires the State Elections Board to promulgate rules establishing a time period in which it will act on applications for certification of chief election inspectors and for approval of electronic voting equipment. If the Board fails to act within the time period specified the application will be automatically approved.

The agency will incur approximately 80 hours of staff time to develop the rules and prepare them for promulgation. The time period for approving applications for certification of election inspectors will remain constant once it is fixed. The statute sets out a timeframe for the certification process and renewal.

Approval of electronic voting equipment may have more contingencies. The Elections Board has already established stringent application procedures for the approval of electronic voting equipment. EIBd Chapter 7, Wis. Adm. Code Under current law the Board may hire experts to assist in the evaluation of electronic voting equipment. The process tends to take 4 – 6 months because the vendor must prepare its equipment to run mock elections. If several vendors seek approval at one time, the Board may face a challenge completing the approval process. Current agency resources and unresolved questions about the integrity of some types of electronic voting equipment have led to a moratorium on the approval of new electronic voting equipment until 2005.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications