Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original Updated	☐ Corrected ☐ S	upplemental
LRB Number 07-3265/1	Introduction Number AB-	0549
Description An optional identification requirement for votir	ng in elections	
Fiscal Effect		
Appropriations Re	crease Existing evenues crease Existing evenues crease Existing evenues crease Costs	
Permissive Mandatory Pe	ecrease Revenue Counties Counties School	Affected illage 🔲 Cities others /TCS istricts
Fund Sources Affected GPR FED PRO PRS	Affected Ch. 20 Approp ☐ SEG ☐ SEGS 20.510, 20.511	riations
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives ELB 10/18/2007

LRB Number 07-3265/1	Introduction Number	AB-0549	Estimate Type	Original	
Description					
An optional identification requirement for voting in elections					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This legislation creates a procedure for permitting voters to request they be asked by election officials to show identification before being permitted to vote. If the voter is unable to provide the required identification, the voter may cast a provisional ballot. This requirement only applies to voters who choose to submit to this requirement.

The voter makes the choice at the time of registration. A registered voter may appear in the municipal clerk's office and sign a statement requesting to be required to show identification before being permitted to vote. The voter must show identification before signing the form authorized by the Government Accountability Board. The voter may submit a written statement revoking the requirement.

The primary cost components of the legislation are changes to information and training materials along with a modification to the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) application to permit the use of a special notation on the poll list to facilitate implementation of the requirement in a uniform, nondiscriminatory manner.

Because this bill will not apply to all voters, it will require special emphasis in poll worker training. This will require special training materials to ensure all voters receive the treatment that applies to them when voting.

The cost of developing and distributing new informational and training materials is estimated to be approximately \$25,000 including an electronic instructional format. The cost for the agency to secure a change in the SVRS application is unknown. Similar changes have been estimated at \$25,000.

In addition, municipal and county government may incur costs to process provisional ballots cast by voters who fail to provide the required identification. This will mean diverting staff resources to ensure timely processing of provisional ballots. These costs are not easily quantifiable.

The legislation does not require the Government Accountability Board to conduct an informational campaign about the voting option authorized by the bill. It appears to be a prudent course of action given the disparate application of identification requirements among groups of voters. That cost has not been developed as part of this fiscal estimate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The administrative costs for state and local government will continue. A voter outreach program should be utilized for each Fall election cycle.