

Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 07-2400/1	Introduction Number SB-182	
Description The scope of regulated activity under the campaign finance law, public financing of elections for certain state offices, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, providing a penalty, and making appropriations		
Fiscal Effect State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <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 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.510, 20.511		
Agency/Prepared By ELB/ Kevin Kennedy (608) 266-8005	Authorized Signature Kevin Kennedy (608) 266-8005	Date 5/19/2007

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

ELB 5/21/2007

LRB Number	07-2400/1	Introduction Number	SB-182	Estimate Type	Original
Description The scope of regulated activity under the campaign finance law, public financing of elections for certain state offices, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, providing a penalty, and making appropriations					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This legislation makes numerous changes in campaign financing law. For purposes of this fiscal estimate it is assumed that the law will be in place for the 2008 elections. The legislation provides for a significant infusion of state money to fund political campaigns for state office by increasing the amount of grant funds available and providing matching grants for eligible candidates who are the targets of independent expenditures or whose non-publicly funded opponent exceeds certain spending thresholds.

For purposes of determining the amount of funding necessary for the publicly financed grants it is assumed the number of candidates set out in the tables below will qualify for and receive grants.

The maximum additional matching grants available per candidate per office are set out in the tables below. These amounts are not included in the cost to administer the legislation because it is unknown what level of matching funds will be required and the amount will vary by contest.

The legislation provides for funding unopposed candidates at a level equal to the average per office over the preceding 4 years. This amount is not included in the fiscal estimate.

The fiscal estimate does not assume the amount of funds that will be returned to the state as unspent seed money or unencumbered grant money.

2008 General Election Grant Amount Max Supplemental Grant (per candidate)

State Senator 20 @ 150,000 3,000,000 375,000
State Representative 145 @ 75,000 10,875,000 187,500

Total funding for partisan contests in 2008 13,875,000

2008 and 2009 Spring and special elections: Grant Amount Max Supplemental Grant (per candidate)

Supreme Court 4 @ 450,000 900,000 1,125,000
State Superintendent 2 @ 375,000 700,000 932,500
State Senator 2 @ 150,000 300,000 375,000
State Representative 4 @ 300,000 1,200,000 187,500

Total funding for non-partisan and special election contests 1,330,000

2010 General Election Grant Amount Max Supplemental Grant (per candidate)

Governor 2 @ 3,000,000 6,000,000 7,500,000
Lieutenant Governor 2 @ 750,000 1,500,000 1,875,000
Attorney General 2 @ 1,050,000 2,100,000 2,625,000
State Treasurer 2 @ 375,000 700,000 932,500
Secretary of State 2 @ 375,000 700,000 932,500
State Senator 20 @ 150,000 3,000,000 375,000
State Representative 145 @ 75,000 10,875,000 187,500

Total funding for partisan contests in 2010 24,875,000

The agency will have to hire 6 LTEs at the Financial Specialist 2 level to audit and process the application and distribution of payments during even numbered years. The salary and fringe costs will be \$87,400. Initial set-up costs for the positions will be \$20,000 and plus administrative costs of \$5,400 for the positions.

The legislation also requires registration and disclosure of a significant amount of activity that is currently unregulated in the form of mass media communications, commonly known as issue ads. This will result in an increased workload for agency staff and increased memory capacity for the agency's campaign finance information system.

Additional administrative costs include changes to the campaign information system currently under development and one time costs for revision of forms, manuals and training materials (\$2,500).

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The public funding component will require \$13,000,000 in additional biennial funding to keep the legislative office accounts funded at the expected participation level. Statewide races will require at least another \$11,000,000 in funding. This does not include funding for matching spending by candidates that do not accept the public funding and independent expenditures.