

Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 11-2334/1	Introduction Number SB-528	
Description Electronic voter registration, verification of certain registrations, and proof of residence for voting in an election and granting rule-making authority		
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input checked="" 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 GAB/ Nathaniel Robinson (608) 267-0715	Authorized Signature Kevin Kennedy (608) 266-8005	Date 3/13/2012

5. Types of Local Government Units Affected
 Towns Village Cities
 Counties Others
 School Districts WTCS Districts

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

GAB 3/13/2012

LRB Number	11-2334/1	Introduction Number	SB-528	Estimate Type	Original
Description Electronic voter registration, verification of certain registrations, and proof of residence for voting in an election and granting rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Description: Electronic voter registration, verification of certain registrations, and proof of residence for voting in an election and granting rule-making authority

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate:

The proposed legislation would permit a qualified elector who holds a current and valid driver license or identification card issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT) to register to vote for an election electronically using a secure Internet site maintained by the Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.). Under the bill, a qualified elector enters the same information that appears on the current registration form and authorizes DOT to forward a copy of his or her electronic signature to GAB. The signature shall constitute an affirmation that all information provided is correct and shall have the same effect as if the applicant had signed the application personally. G.A.B shall integrate the signature into the applicant's electronic application. The bill permits an elector who is currently registered to vote and who has a current and valid driver license or identification card to enter a name change or address change using a similar procedure.

Electronic registration forms shall contain the same information as nonelectronic forms.

The board or clerk shall examine the electronic registration form for sufficiency. If the form is insufficient to accomplish registration or the board or clerk knows or has reliable information that the proposed elector is not qualified, the board or clerk shall notify the proposed elector within 5 days, if possible, and request the elector appear at the clerk's office or another registration location to complete a proper registration or substantiate the information presented.

The clerk or board of election commissioners of the elector's municipality of residence must verify the registration by sending a first-class letter or postcard to the registrant.

This bill provides that if an elector who registers electronically provides his or her Wisconsin driver license or identification card number, together with his or her name and date of birth and G.A.B. is able to verify the information electronically at the time of registration by accessing the records of the DOT, the elector need not provide proof of residence prior to voting. The bill directs G.A.B. to maintain a system the electronically verifies, on an instant basis, information submitted in lieu of proof of residence using the information maintained by the department of transportation.

The bill directs G.A.B. and DOT to enter into an agreement that permits G.A.B. to verify the necessary information instantly by accessing DOT electronic files. The bill also permits DOT to release otherwise confidential signatures collected by DOT to G.A.B.

The bill requires G.A.B. and DOT to report quarterly to the legislature until implementation is complete.

The act would first apply to registration for voting at the first spring of or September [sic] election that follows the effective date of this subsection by at least 6 months.

Increased Cost to the State

The proposed legislation requires the G.A.B. to modify the existing interface with DMV. In addition, G.A.B. will need to modify the existing secured registration website to allow a voter to complete a voter registration application without submitting a paper form. The applicant's signature will need to be electronically integrated with the voter application. Voter applications entered on the secured portal will need to be

transmitted into SVRS instantly upon completion of the instant verification from DOT.

System Requirements

Based upon the requirements outlined in SB-528, G.A.B. estimates the following items would have to be developed in order for this legislation to be successfully implemented:

1. A voter portal providing information and guidance to current and potential voters.
2. An online voter registration module enabled to do real-time validation against DOT records.
3. An online voter self-service address and name modification module with DOT data interchange.
4. A module to manage the "behind the scenes" data interchange between DOT.
5. An integration into the Statewide Voter Registration System's (SVRS) business logic to manage voter records in the same method currently done through direct entry by certified voting officials.
6. A module to capture and integrate electronic signatures into SVRS' database, and into the electronic voter registration application.
7. An integration into SVRS' function logic to manage voter record database transactions in the same method which is currently done by certified voting officials.
8. An integration into SVRS' functional logic to provide the same level of audit and database logging as is currently done.
9. An integration into SVRS' functional logic to enable reporting of voter online activity.
10. A module to provide auditing of voter online activity.
11. Increased storage and infrastructure capacity to support the new online voter registration, voter data management, and reporting and data storage.

Development Team

Based upon the above items, G.A.B. estimates it will require:

12. One (1) Project Manager to manage the project activity and coordinate interfaces with DOT.
13. One (1) Business Analyst to develop business requirements, develop voter user interface, provide testing scripts and define DOT/G.A.B. data real-time interchange.
14. One (1) Solution Architect to design the solution and manage its development
15. One (1) Application Developer to develop the modules, online system, build DOT integration Web Services and build auditing system. This position will be added permanently to support the on-going needs of the system, including break-fix, enhancements, upgrades, etc.
16. One (1) Database Administration to manage the data exchange, build new database tables and integrate new database elements into SVRS. This position will be added permanently to support the database management of the new system
17. One (1) Infrastructure Support person to manage the hardware, servers, network, and other infrastructure required to support the system. This position will be added permanently to support the infrastructure on an on-going basis. This position would also develop system reports as needed.

Project Timeline

G.A.B. estimates the life cycle of this project will require:

1. One (1) month project initiation, start-up
2. One (1) month of analysis and requirements definition.
3. Two (3) months of database design, application design, UI definition, data interchange design.
4. Four (5) months of application development and system testing.
5. Two (2) months of integration and user acceptance testing.
6. One (1) month of implementation, training and start-up break-fix.

Based on staff's review of AB-0365, G.A.B.'s best time estimate is that this could be at least a 12 month effort.

Infrastructure Costs

To support this new program, G.A.B. estimates the following infrastructure will be required:

1. Three (3) web servers to host the on-line application
2. Two (2) SQL database servers to manage the data
3. Two (2) Data Interchange Environments to manage the data exchange between DOT and G.A.B.
4. One (1) terabyte of data storage to store the voter registration data and the electronic signatures

Summary of Year 1 Costs

1. Up to 12,480 hours of effort at a contracting blended rate of \$90/hour. Staff hours are based upon estimated staff proposed above for 12 months. (6 staff full time x 12 months = 12,480 hours)
2. Up to \$1,123,200.00 will be needed in staffing costs. (12,480 hours x \$90 per hour = \$1,123,200.00)
3. Up to \$60,539.04 in infrastructure costs (i.e. web server, real-time data interchange environment, etc.)
4. Estimated Initial Costs for First Year;js Operation: \$1,183,739.04.

Ongoing Annual Costs

1. One (1) Application Developer for \$187,200 (52 weeks per year x 40 hours in a week x \$90 per hour)
2. One (1) Database Administrator for \$187,200 (52 weeks per year x 40 hours in a week x \$90 per hour)
3. One (1) Infrastructure Support for \$187,200 (52 weeks per year x 40 hours in a week x \$90 per hour)
4. Ongoing Infrastructure Costs of \$60,539.04 (see assumptions above)
5. Estimated Ongoing Costs Per Year: \$622,139.04

Annual Cost Details

The following chart provides additional details on the costs articulated above.

Staff	Weeks	Hours/Week	Rate	Total
Project Manager	52	40	\$90	\$187,200.00
Business Analyst	52	40	\$90	\$187,200.00
Solution Architect	52	40	\$90	\$187,200.00
Application Developer*	52	40	\$90	\$187,200.00
Database Analyst*	52	40	\$90	\$187,200.00
Infrastructure Support*	52	40	\$90	\$187,200.00
Totals	12,480			\$1,123,200.00

Infrastructure	Quantity	Cost/Month	Cost/Annual
Web Servers*	3	\$561.00	\$20,196.00
SQL Servers*	2	\$1,010.00	\$24,240.00
Data Interchange Environment*	2	\$374.00	\$8,976.00
Storage (.58/GB)*	1024	\$593.92	\$7,127.04
Total		\$60,539.04	

* these costs are identified as on-going

Decreased Cost to Local Government

Municipal and County clerks will see a reduction in the amount of staff time required for processing paper forms. Automating certain SVRS functions for use by the voter is an effective tool in mitigating several problems that currently exist in interpreting and translating voter registration documents. Some of the most glaring and reoccurring challenges include:

„X Handwritten Voter Registration Forms, particularly forms submitted by third party voter registration groups, are frequently missing required information, which forces clerks to follow-up with voters to get complete data before they can register the voters. An enhanced voter registration form hosted on SVRS can be programmed to require all information, and provide a „Hard stop“ if voters skip required fields. In addition, this initiative will likely decrease reliance on third party voter registration groups resulting in a significant reduction in fraudulent voter registration forms. Currently local election officials spend hours weeding out improperly prepared voter registration forms.

„X Handwriting can be difficult to read. Having voters type-in their own information increases the accuracy and quality of the data being entered into the voter registration system.

„X During election periods, many local clerks need to hire temporary workers to data enter the large volume of voter registration forms that come in at the last minute before the close of voter registration. Allowing individual voters to „do their own data entry“ directly saves clerk time, resources and money.

„X Election Day Registration (EDR) is still perceived by many voters as the most convenient way to register or update their registration information. For example, over the past 30+ years, the percentage of electors registering and voting on Election Day in Presidential Elections has remained consistent around the 15% level. Similar results are experienced for Gubernatorial Elections. In the 2008 Presidential and General

Election, 15% of Voters Registered on Election Day (459,459 out of 2,997,089 Total Voters).

These high numbers of voters registering on Election Day creates long lines at the polling place, as well as large volumes of work for clerks after the election. An online electronic voter registration form that can be filled out in the comfort of one's home would add a convenience level that is likely to help offset the number of Election Day Registrants.

For an example of actual municipal cost savings, consider the following statistics from Wisconsin's two largest municipalities from the Presidential Election in 2008:

„X City of Milwaukee processed 170,000 paper voter application forms, and spent approximately \$150,000.00 to hire a data entry vendor to process those forms.

„X City of Madison processed 89,166 voter applications at an estimated data entry cost of \$67,173.58.

For an example of actual municipal cost savings, consider the following statistics from Wisconsin's two largest municipalities from the Presidential Election in 2008:

□ City of Milwaukee processed 170,000 paper voter application forms, and spent approximately \$150,000.00 to hire a data entry vendor to process those forms.

□ City of Madison processed 89,166 voter applications at an estimated data entry cost of \$67,173.58.

While we are unable to calculate an exact cost savings figure for all of Wisconsin's municipalities and counties, it is reasonable to estimate that the savings would exceed \$300,000 per two-year election cycle.

Estimated Initial Costs for First Year's Operation

\$1,183,739

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

□ Ongoing increased cost to the State: Approximately \$622,139 per year for maintenance of the electronic system.

□ Reduction in cost to Municipalities: Approximately \$300,000 per two-year election cycle year for staff and data entry processing time.

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2011 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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LRB Number 11-2334/1		Introduction Number SB-528	
Description Electronic voter registration, verification of certain registrations, and proof of residence for voting in an election and granting rule-making authority			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
	State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$1,123,200	\$
	(FTE Position Changes)		
	State Operations - Other Costs	60,539	
	Local Assistance		
	Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
	TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$1,183,739	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
	GPR	1,183,739	
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S		
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
		Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
	GPR Taxes	\$	\$
	GPR Earned		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S		
	TOTAL State Revenues	\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
	NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$1,183,739	\$
	NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$	\$
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