# Fiscal Estimate - 2023 Session

This document contains information about fiscal estimates for the 2023 legislative session. It is related to legislative bill SB-0026, which aims to remove ineligible voters from the official voter registration list.

## Description
- **LRB Number:** 23-0760/1
- **Introduction Number:** SB-0026
- **Description:** Removing ineligible voters from the official voter registration list.

## Fiscal Effect

### State:
- **No State Fiscal Effect**
- **Indeterminate**
  - Increase Existing Appropriations
  - Decrease Existing Appropriations
  - Create New Appropriations
  - Increase Existing Revenues
  - Decrease Existing Revenues
  - Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
  - Yes
  - No
  - Decrease Costs

### Local:
- **No Local Government Costs**
- **Indeterminate**
  - Increase Costs
  - Decrease Costs
  - Increase Revenue
  - Decrease Revenue

### Fund Sources Affected
- **GPR**
- **FED**
- **PRO**
- **PRS**
- **SEG**
- **SEGS**

### Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

### Agency/Prepared By
- **ELEC/ Robert Kehoe (608) 261-2019**

### Authorized Signature
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### Date
- **2/22/2023**

This document is intended to provide a detailed fiscal impact analysis for the legislative proposal, including potential changes to state and local government budgets, as well as the affected fund sources and appropriations.
Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

More detail is needed to determine the cost of the proposal. There is not a physical "registration list." Ineligible voters are, by definition, not registered to vote. Ineligible voters do not appear on poll books - the lists of registered voters produced for each election and held at every municipality in the State of Wisconsin. There is no list of registered voters that contains inactive voter records.

The draft does not provide a definition of what removal means. Section 22 references to data "destruction" imply that the information is preserved in some way, but the mechanism of the preservation is not explained. Voter registration data is maintained in an electronic database. The electronic database contains voter records, absentee application records, absentee ballot records, care facility records, polling place records, jurisdiction and ward records, millions of address records, election plans, election reconciliation records, mailing records, felon records, death records, incompetency records, DOT license check records, training records, and staff contact records. Digital data is highly fungible, and the segregation of data depends entirely upon the screening criteria applied to the database. Physical location is effectively irrelevant to digital data unless the sponsors intend that the data be "air gapped," or physically separated from all other systems with no electronic connection whatsoever. In such a configuration access to the data would be extremely limited for agency staff, and effectively impossible for county and municipal officials. This level of separation would require additional hardware, software, and processes, but more information would be needed to determine an accurate cost for state and local officials.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications