

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 6133-01  
Bill No.: SB 892  
Subject: Elections; Secretary of State  
Type: Original  
Date: March 7, 2014

---

Bill Summary: This proposal changes the presidential primary election date from February to April.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
General Revenue	\$0	\$3,700,000	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,700,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Kansas City Board of Election Commission** assume the state could save \$100,000 to \$200,000 to move the election to April. It would depend on how many other entities will have an election in April and could share the cost.

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** assume a savings of \$70,000 from not holding the February Primary. They assume additional costs of \$27,000 for the April election. Netting the state a savings of \$43,000.

Officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Election Commission** assume moving the Presidential Primary from February to April would increase the cost of the April Election due to the increase of ballot styles and the need for additional poll workers. Normally, there would be about 349 ballot styles in an April Election. If the Presidential Primary were in April, there would be 1,396 ballot styles in order for the voter to choose their party preference. The increased cost to the April Election would be \$220,000.

Even though there would be an increase cost to the election, there would be a savings to the state. This savings would come from the sharing of the total election cost with everyone involved in the election (municipalities, fire districts and school districts).

As an example, the cost of the April 2012 General Municipal Election was approximately \$753,000. The cost would then increase to \$973,000 due to the printing of additional ballot styles and additional poll workers. If the Presidential Primary were on the April ballot, the state would pay \$296,000. Compared to \$883,700 cost of the February 2012 Presidential Primary Election, this would be savings to the state of approximately \$587,700.

Officials at the **Lincoln County** assume this could lead to costs due to conducting a non-partisan election at the same time as a partisan election. Additional costs could reach an estimated \$30,000 per election in a presidential year for coding and printing of ballots, programming of equipment, and overtime for preparations.

Officials at the **Johnson County** assume the cost of the election is unknown but would increase due to the number of ballot styles.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** stated this proposal would change the presidential preference primary to be held the same day as the general municipal election in a presidential election year. The combined presidential preference primary with the general municipal election was anticipated that a greater portion of the costs would be shared with other political subdivisions, resulting in a cost savings for the state of up to \$3,700,000.

**Oversight** assumes that combining the presidential primary (partisan election) with the general municipal election (a non-partisan election) would result in higher ballot printing costs. However, the largest expense in an election is the payroll costs for the judges and overtime. Oversight assumes that the elimination of one election would save the state more in payroll costs than the increased costs in ballot printing. Oversight will reflect the savings to the state as the estimate provided by SOS of \$3,700,000.

Officials at the following board of election commissions: St. Louis City Board of Election Commission, Clay County Board of Election Commission, Jackson County Board of Election Commission and St. Louis County Board of Election Commission did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

Officials at the following counties: Andrew, Audrain, Barry, Bates, Boone, Buchanan, Callaway, Camden, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Cole, Cooper, DeKalb, Franklin, Greene, Holt, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Laclede, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, New Madrid, Nodaway, Ozark, Perry, Pettis, Phelps, Platte, Pulaski, Scott, St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Francois, Taney, Warren, Wayne and Worth did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Savings</u> - Secretary of State - savings to the reimbursements that would be owed	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$3,700,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$3,700,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

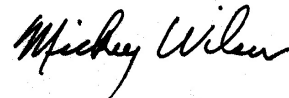
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This act changes the presidential primary election date from February to April.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Johnson County  
Kansas City Board of Election Commission  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Platte County Board of Election Commission  
St. Louis County Board of Election Commission



Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
March 7, 2014

Ross Strobe

L.R. No. 6133-01  
Bill No. SB 892  
Page 6 of 6  
March 7, 2014

Assistant Director  
March 7, 2014

JH:LR:OD