COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0596-05

Bill No.: Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed HCS for SCS for SB Nos. 34 and 105

Subject: Elections, Military affairs

Type: Original

<u>Date</u>: May 15, 2015

Bill Summary: This proposal allows for military and overseas voter registration and

voting.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	
General Revenue	(\$37,400)	\$0	\$0	
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$37,400)	\$0	\$0	

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

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ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0	

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	

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FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume this proposal allows individuals discharged from the military or separated from employment after the deadline to register to vote, to register to vote up to 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election. Emergency workers would be added as a qualified individual to use the absentee voting process as established in law; they could vote absentee in person, mail, fax, or electronically. The bill also specifies a process for the local election authorities to use their existing voting equipment for in-person absentee voting. Programming changes would need to be made with the centralized voter registration database and military portal to incorporate these new categories of absentee voters with an estimated one-time cost of \$22,000.

This proposal would also allow military and overseas voters to vote in all elections involving federal office, statewide office, statewide legislative office, or statewide initiatives. To meet these requirements, additional programming changes would need to be made to the centralized voter registration database and military portal to incorporate these new categories of voters with an estimated one-time cost of \$15,400.

The total cost to SOS is estimated at \$37,400.

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Elections** assumed up to \$6,500 in FY 2016 to purchase wireless hotspots and up to \$1,300 per election for data. This cost reflects the need for real time poll book (Poll Pad) updates that could be required by 115.135 (4). Allowing Poll Pads to access the most current data is the most reliable way to avoid conflict or misinformation on election day. Loading election data represents a significant investment in staff time and is a task that is done several days before this proposal requires to close registration for qualified service members. At that point, the Poll Pads will be sealed and won't be opened again until election judges set them up on election day. Without network access, newly registered voters will not be included in the list of eligible voters.

Oversight assumes the amount of people who would qualify under this proposal would be minimal, and therefore the local election authorities could absorb these costs with existing resources.

Officials at the following boards of election commission: Kansas City Board of Election Commission, 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.

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ASSUMPTION (continued)

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

FISCAL IMPACT - State Government	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
GENERAL REVENUE			
Cost - SOS - computer programming	(\$37,400)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>(\$37,400)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
	<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 proposal extends voter registration deadline for certain military and overseas voters and permits covered voters who are eligible and vote in Missouri to vote for certain offices by submitting a federal postcard application.

This proposal has an emergency clause.

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

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the Secretary of State Platte County Board of Election Commissions

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May 15, 2015

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