

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4005S.02I
Bill No.: SB 633
Subject: County Officials; Elections; Secretary of State
Type: Original
Date: February 22, 2022

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies various provisions relating to elections.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with the core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

Oversight assumes the SOS could absorb the costs of printing and distributing regulations related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require the printing and distribution of regulations at substantial costs, the SOS could request funding through the appropriation process.

Officials from the **Attorney General's Office, Department of Corrections, Department of Revenue, Missouri Highway Patrol, Office of the State Courts Administrator, and Office of the State Public Defender** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Officials from **Jackson County Board of Elections** state currently the Board uses ballot marking devices for absentee voting. Limiting the use of the ADA ballot marking devices to only those with disabilities will increase ballot printing costs substantially.

The Jackson County Election Board can have up to three hundred (300) different ballot styles in an election and would have to print absentee ballots for each ballot style for absentee voting at a cost of .35 cents per ballot. They have no way of knowing who will be voting absentee so at least 2% of each ballot style would have to be printed to cover the walk-in and permanent absentee voters. Currently they print enough for permanent/disabled voters to mail to them and have a small amount for walk-in absentees if they choose a paper ballot over the ballot marking device. The ballot marking device allows them to pull up any individual's particular ballot style while also producing a paper ballot at a substantial cost savings.

The Jackson County Election Board along with other Missouri election authorities have invested millions of dollars in ADA machines which are not widely used at the polling locations so making use of them in the absentee department is fiscally responsible and voters like the machines.

Cost to Election Authority/County

Small Elections \$3,500 per election/per year
 Large Elections \$10,000 per election/per year

Officials from the **Platte County Board of Elections** and **St. Louis County Board of Elections** both assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Oversight notes according to section 115.237, beginning January 1, 2023, the official ballot shall be a paper ballot that is hand-marked by the voter, or in the case of voters with disabilities who need assistance, by a paper ballot marking device designed to assist voters, except as provided in subsection 5 of section 115.225. Based on most recent survey conducted in 2020, there are 330 DREs in service statewide. All local election authorities (LEAs) which disclosed the use of DREs on the survey have already replaced or have indicated that they are actively planning to replace those machines prior to the date specified in the bill. Therefore, Oversight does not anticipate fiscal impact to LEAs.

Oversight only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other local election authorities and county clerks were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2023 (10 Mo.)	FY 2024	FY 2025
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2023 (10 Mo.)	FY 2024	FY 2025
	<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.

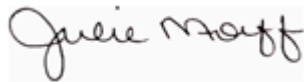
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no direct fiscal impact.

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

Attorney General's Office
Department of Corrections
Department of Revenue
Missouri Highway Patrol
Office of the Secretary of State
Office of the State Public Defender
Office of the State Courts Administrator
Jackson County Board of Elections
Platte County Board of Elections
St. Louis County Board of Elections



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February 22, 2022



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