

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 3376S.02I  
Bill No.: SB 983  
Subject: Elections; Department of Revenue; Secretary of State  
Type: Original  
Date: February 6, 2026

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to voter registration.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND**

| FUND AFFECTED  | FY 2027            | FY 2028    | FY 2029    |
|--|--------------------|------------|------------|
| General Revenue                                      | (\$315,000)        | \$0        | \$0        |
| <b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b> | <b>(\$315,000)</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> |

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS**

| FUND AFFECTED   | FY 2027    | FY 2028    | FY 2029    |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
|   |            |            |            |
| <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.

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS**

| FUND AFFECTED   | FY 2027    | FY 2028    | FY 2029    |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
|   |            |            |            |
|   |            |            |            |
| <b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> |

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)**

| FUND AFFECTED                            | FY 2027  | FY 2028  | FY 2029  |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
|  |          |          |          |
|  |          |          |          |
| <b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |

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 2027    | FY 2028    | FY 2029    |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                         |            |            |            |
|                         |            |            |            |
| <b>Local Government</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> |

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §§115.158 and 115.160 - Provisions Relating to Voter Registration

Officials from the **Department of Revenue (DOR)** state the following:

§115.158.5(3) proposes to amend this subsection related to information exchanges between the Department of Revenue and Secretary of State to match information in the database of the voter registration system with information in the database of the motor vehicle system to add "... which shall include information pertaining to the citizenship status of those within the department of revenue's database, to enable the secretary to verify the accuracy of information provided on applications for voter registration."

#### Additional Comments

The potential fiscal impact of this language as written could be extensive; or impact may be determined as already met under current provisions of law and Department procedure.

In current procedures the Department does not mandate a credential holder who has been previously marked in the system as having presented a United States citizenship document, to present such document again when electing to register or update voter registration. The fiscal impact estimated in this response is based on potential impact, that as proposed, may be interpreted to require all persons electing to register or update voter registration at the time of license issuance to physically "provide" such citizenship verification document.

This change as written will modify current duplicate/replacement processing requirements for in-person and online services to mandate presentation of a status verification document when licensing application provisions under § 302.171.9, § 302.171.11, and § 302.185, or provisions of regulation under 12 CSR 10-24.448 do not mandate or exempt lawful status verification today. Today, the lawful status exempted applications rely on the applicant's self-certification of citizenship status to determine an allowance or denial of voter registration during the licensing transaction.

#### §115.160.7 – Proof of citizenship to register to vote

The department states this proposes language mandating the division of motor vehicle and driver licensing shall determine whether an applicant for driver's license has the requisite proof of citizenship needed to register to vote. The division shall only provide an opportunity to register to vote to a customer who provides documentation demonstrating that the individual is a citizen of the United States.

### Additional Comments

The Department's current process related to §115.158 is as follows: Transactions initiated in office require the clerk to ask the applicant the required motor voter questions, as they have been approved by the representative agencies to ensure all statutory provisions have been met in relation to these processes. Applicants submitting documents verifying United States citizenship as entered by the office clerk, will be presented motor voter questions. Those presenting other non-citizen status documents are denied voter registration application submission through the licensing transactions.

Providing each eligible United States citizen applicant with the opportunity to register or update their voter registration by asking the mandatory questions, and keying the applicant's response correctly is a mandatory function of all offices to comply with provisions of the National Voter Registration Act and Missouri law.

The Department currently has an interface with the Secretary of State's managed Missouri Voter Registration System for two primary data exchange files. The first being data required for persons electing to register or update voter registration. The second being a monthly file of any driver records with an update to demographic data or certain licensing status updates. Those files include the applicant's driver license number, last four of the social security number or other unique identifying number, date of birth, sex designation, and the signature for registration applicants. Additional ad hoc validation files to support voter registration system recordkeeping have included a field for lawful status verification indicator as stored in the driver record system for persons verified as 'US Citizen' that is indicated with Y(yes)/N(no) when processed.

### Administrative Impact

Proposed changes will require:

- Collaboration between the Secretary of State and the Department to discuss current data exchange files and any new fields or indicator types required to convey citizenship status based on documents provided to the Department for licensing purposes. These validation fields are not present in some of the primary data exchange files.
- Define project team, develop workplan and complete project intake documents.
- Define required changes and submit request to vendor for system updates.
- Modification to current driver license issuance system to require collection of document type or retention of documents used for verification of citizenship status, that may not be required for the licensing transaction type.
- Modification to current driver license issuance system to remove any self-certification of status by persons who are exempt from submission of lawful status verification to meet license issuance requirements, including statutorily allowed one-year renewal extensions, over 65 lawful status verification exemptions, or duplicate replacement transaction types.

- To reduce potential risk of noncompliance, the proposed language as written would require modification to current driver license issuance system to require any person electing to register to vote to present citizenship status verification documents, regardless of any previous system indicators.
- Review rules and regulations proposed by the Secretary of State.
- Vendor complete programming for in-person and online applications.
- Analyst complete user acceptance testing.
- Update procedures, forms, and the Department website;
- Update the on-line address change request.
- Obtain necessary reviews and approvals from Secretary of State and others as applicable.
- Update the Missouri Driver Guide (on-line and printed versions).
- Develop training materials.
- Train internal staff, contracted staff and external agency partners as needed.

FY 27 - Driver License Bureau

Associate Research/Data Analyst 320 hrs. @ \$31.16 per hr. =\$ 9,971  
Research/Data Analyst 360 hrs. @ \$37.14 per hr. =\$13,370  
Administrative Manager 120 hrs. @ \$51.40 per hr. =\$ 6,168  
Total = \$29,509

FY 27- Personnel Services Bureau

Associate Research/Data Analyst 80 hrs. @ \$31.16 per hr. = \$2,493  
Total = \$2,493

Total FY 2027 = **\$32,002**

FY 2027 – Motor Vehicle and Driver Licensing Integrated System Vendor

This cost reflects a significant increase in estimated hours from similar SB 280 (2025). Vendor cost increases based on additional estimated system impacts in this review, versus assumption of using current implemented processes; including additional vendor experience with MO issuance system, expected change impacts and potential timelines since vendor provided system implementation November 2024.

Implementation Consultant Estimated 1400 hrs. @ \$225 per hr. =\$315,000

Total Estimated Administrative Impact = **\$347,002**

**Oversight** assumes DOR is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of activity each year. Oversight assumes DOR could absorb the personnel services costs of \$32,002 related to this proposal but will present the FUSION costs of \$315,000 for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **Platte County Board of Elections, St. Louis City Board of Elections, St. Louis County Board of Elections, McDonald County Clerk and Greene County Clerk** each assume this proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assume this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note 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 its 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.

| <u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>                            | FY 2027<br>(10 Mo.)       | FY 2028           | FY 2029           |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>  |                           |                   |                   |
| <u>Cost – DOR (§115.158.5) MVDL Integrated System – FUSION p.5</u> | (\$315,000)               | \$0               | \$0               |
| <b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>                | <b><u>(\$315,000)</u></b> | <b><u>\$0</u></b> | <b><u>\$0</u></b> |

| <u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u> | FY 2027<br>(10 Mo.) | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---------------------|---------|---------|
|   | \$0                 | \$0     | \$0     |

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Current law requires the Secretary of State and the Director of the Department of Revenue (DOR) to enter into an agreement to match information in the voter registration database with information in the motor vehicle system. This act requires such agreement to include information pertaining to the citizenship status of those within DOR's database.

Current law requires all applicants for a driver's license to be provided a voter registration application form simultaneously during the transaction. This act requires the Division of Motor Vehicle and Driver Licensing within the Department of Revenue to additionally determine whether an applicant for a driver's license has the requisite proof of citizenship needed to register to vote. Only customers who provide documentation demonstrating that the individual is a United States citizen shall be given the opportunity to register to vote.

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

Department of Revenue  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
Platte County Board of Elections  
St. Louis City Board of Elections  
St. Louis County Board of Elections  
McDonald County Clerk  
Greene County Clerk

Julie Morff  
Director



Jessica Harris  
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February 6, 2026