

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4324S.01I
Bill No.: SB 963
Subject: Elementary and Secondary Education; Elections; Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Secretary of State
Type: Original
Date: January 22, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal requires school districts and charter schools to offer students who are 17 1/2 years old the opportunity to register to vote.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue*	More than (\$127,575)	More than (\$26,153)	More than (\$26,807)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	More than (\$127,575)	More than (\$26,153)	More than (\$26,807)

*Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will need to make changes to their new DIVE application to collect the data required in this proposal.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on All Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
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 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§167.1002 – Allowing Students the Opportunity to Register to Vote during School

Officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume §167.1002 would require districts and charter schools to report to DESE regarding voter registration activities conducted under this section. DESE assumes this information would be collected via the new DIVE application, which would need to be modified in order to collect the required data. DESE estimates significant time will be needed to update documentation, training, and working with IT on these modifications. The position responsible for this work is an Assistant Director position and at this time can be absorbed into regular duties. If multiple items of legislation are passed requiring additional duties in this area it may lead to additional FTE being required. At that time DESE would seek additional FTE through the appropriations process.

Officials from **Office of Administration – Information Technology (OA-ITSD)** state DESE is a consolidated agency under OA-ITSD. It is assumed that every new IT project/system will be bid out because all ITSD resources are at full capacity.

DESE ODSM and DESE Data Governance will define all data elements needed to be captured, provide those to ITSD, which will be used to establish the database table(s) and fields. DESE ODSM will also collect any historical information in a standard data layout, that aligns with the database/fields they define, compile all data from all districts and charters. DESE ODSM assumes one data field will be required to be added to CORE DATA.

OA-ITSD states the project would take 1,215 hours at a contract rate of \$105 for a total cost of **\$127,575** in FY 2027 with on-going support costs of \$26,153 in FY 2028 and \$26,807 in FY 2029.

Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect DESE's estimated cost to the agency.

Officials from **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume this bill requires SOS to prepare informational materials regarding voter registration, which shall be distributed at voter registration events conducted at least twice per year at each school in the state. The form of such materials, and therefore the cost of producing same, are unknown and will depend on business decisions made once the bill takes effect.

Oversight notes section 167.1002.4 requires the SOS to prepare informational materials regarding voter registration to be distributed at each voter registration activity. Therefore, Oversight will reflect the estimated impact by SOS in the fiscal note.

Oversight notes section 167.1002.5 states each school district and charter school shall file a report regarding voter registration activities conducted pursuant to the provisions of this section with the department of elementary and secondary education by December 31 of each year. Oversight assumes that school districts and charter schools can absorb any additional duties required by this proposal with existing resources. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note.

Officials from the **Platte County Board of Elections**, **St. Louis City Board of Elections** and **St. Louis County Board of Elections** 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.

In response to similar legislation, SB 375 (2025), officials from **Jackson County Election Board** and **Kansas City Election Board** each assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other school districts were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost</u> – DESE/ITSD (§167.1002) Programming p.3	(\$127,575)	(\$26,153)	(\$26,807)
<u>Cost</u> – SOS (§167.1002) Prepare, print, and distribute voter registration literature p.3	(Unknown)	(Unknown)	(Unknown)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	More than (\$127,575)	More than (\$26,153)	More than (\$26,807)

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

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

At least twice during each school year, this act requires school districts and charter schools to offer students who are at least 17 1/2 years old the opportunity to register to vote. The first opportunity shall occur during school hours on the fourth Tuesday in September. The second opportunity shall occur at a later time and shall be conducted by the local election authority in whose jurisdiction the school district or charter school is located. The school district or charter school shall coordinate with the local election authority to provide the second voter registration activity.

The Secretary of State shall prepare materials regarding voter registration to be distributed at each voter registration activity conducted pursuant to the provisions of the act.

Each school district and charter school shall file a report regarding voter registration activities with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education by December 31 of each year.

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 Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of the Secretary of State
Jackson County Election Board
Platte County Board of Elections
St. Louis City Board of Elections
St. Louis County Board of Elections
Kansas City Election Board



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January 22, 2026



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