

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4237-02
Bill No.: SB 845
Subject: Elections; Secretary of State
Type: Original
Date: March 1, 2010

Bill Summary: Modifies the law relating to voter registration and absentee ballots for overseas voters.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Federal Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

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).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume this bill requires ballots for absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters to comply with federal provisions. It requires the SOS to designate a means of electronic communication for uniformed service and overseas voters to request, receive, and send voter registration applications, absentee ballot applications, and ballots. The SOS shall also develop a free access system for uniformed service and overseas voters to determine if their ballot has been received by the appropriate election authority.

SOS assume training for the local election authorities would be \$7,100.

7 trainings x \$1,000 (travel, lodging and meeting room)
\$100 Phone line
\$7,100 Total

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** and **Kansas City Board of Election Commission** assume that there is no fiscal impact from this proposal.

Officials at the **Boone County** assume if the SOS authorizes email or fax as a method of electronic transmission, then no cost to the County. Email will save approximately \$2,300 in postage and handling costs. If SOS mandates some other form of electronic transmission other than email or fax, then costs might increase depending on design of system.

No other board of election commission or local election authority responded to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

Oversight assumes that since this legislation is a federal mandate, federal funds will be received under the M.O.V.E. Act to cover costs associated with this proposal.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2011 (10 Mo.)	FY 2012	FY 2013
FEDERAL FUNDS			
<u>Revenue</u> - Secretary of State			
M.O.V.E. Act funds received	\$7,100	\$0	\$0
<u>Cost</u> - Secretary of State			
training for new procedures	(<u>\$7,100</u>)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2011 (10 Mo.)	FY 2012	FY 2013
	<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 Secretary of State shall establish procedures for overseas voters to request and send voter registration applications and absentee ballot applications by mail and electronically. Overseas voters include absent uniformed services voters, persons residing outside the United States who are qualified to vote in their previous domicile before leaving, those residing outside the United States who would otherwise be qualified to vote in their previous domicile, and persons in federal service.

The Secretary of State shall print and make available a sufficient quantity of absentee ballots, ballot envelopes, and mailing envelopes for such voters.

Absent uniformed services and overseas voters are excused from being required to deliver an affidavit sworn to before the election official receiving the ballot, notary public, or another authorized to administer oaths with the absentee ballot.

Election authorities are barred from refusing valid marked absentee ballots submitted by absent

FISCAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

uniformed services and overseas voters solely on the basis of restrictions on envelope type.

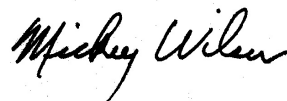
The Secretary of State in coordination with the local election jurisdictions shall develop a free access system by which an absent uniformed services and overseas voter may determine whether his or her ballot has been received.

This act removes the requirement that voters must make a statement by federal postcard, letter, or on a form prepared by the local election authority to qualify for a special write-in absentee ballot due to serving in the military or isolation. The special write-in absentee ballot shall be used in place of the Federal write-in absentee ballot in general, special, and primary elections for federal office.

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

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the Secretary of State
Kansas City Board of Election Commission
Platte County Board of Election Commission
Boone County



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Director
March 1, 2010