

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 207** SLS 15RS 437

Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: June 10, 2015	10:33 AM	Author: RISER
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State		Analyst: Zachary Rau
Subject: Election Reimbursements Relative to Early Voting		

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

EN DECREASE GF EX See Note

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Provides for election costs paid by secretary of state; governing authorities; reimbursement. (1/1/16)

Present law outlines a list of election expenses which are defined as reimbursable to the Secretary of State by local governing authorities at a rate of 25% if a local or municipal candidate, or a local bond, debt, tax, proposition, or question appears on the ballot. Proposed law classifies Registrars' of Voters overtime costs related to early voting duties as an election expense for the Secretary of State which can be reimbursed by local governing authorities. Proposed law has a sunset date of December 31, 2017.

EXPENDITURES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total				\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total				\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation will likely lead to an increase in local expenditures with a decrease in state general fund expenditures for the Secretary of State. This bill would classify overtime costs as an election expense for the Secretary of State which would be reimbursed by local governing authorities up to 25% for elections if a local or municipal candidate, or a local bond, debt, tax, proposition, or question appears on the ballot. Overtime for Registrars of Voters related to early voting runs from 4:30 PM until 6:00 PM on weekdays, and from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM on Saturdays. The Secretary of State currently incurs this cost without any reimbursement from local governing authorities.

In FY 14, Registrars' of Voters overtime costs related to early voting totaled \$547,930, with election costs totaling \$10.1 M, of which \$6.9 M was the local share, 25% (approximately \$1.7 M) of which was reimbursed to the Secretary of State. To the extent overtime for early voting duties is needed and local or municipal measures appear on the ballot, the local cost share of elections will increase. For example, if all elections in FY 14 had local or municipal measures on the ballot, the Secretary of State would be entitled to reimbursement of approximately \$137,000 for overtime related to early voting activities from local governing authorities, raising the local cost share to approximately \$1.8 M. However, the magnitude of these costs will vary annually and cannot be determined. The provisions of this bill sunset on December 31, 2017.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation will lead to an increase in self-generated revenues for the Secretary of State, as it will receive greater reimbursement amounts from local governing authorities for costs associated with conducting elections. The exact reimbursement amounts will vary depending upon the type and scope of election, and therefore cannot be determined.

In FY 14, Registrars of Voters' overtime costs related to early voting activities totaled \$547,930. Pursuant to this legislation, local governing authorities would be responsible for reimbursing up to 25% of Registrars of Voters overtime costs related to early voting activities to the extent they occur. These costs will vary annually. Therefore, the magnitude of the revenue impact for the Secretary of State cannot be determined.

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 Rev. Red. to State {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} |

Evan Brasseaux

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