

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0851-01  
Bill No.: HB 245  
Subject: Elections; Political Parties; Political Subdivisions  
Type: Original  
Date: March 18, 2011

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Bill Summary: This proposal allows voters to cast advance ballots.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
General Revenue	(Unknown greater than \$564,816)	(Unknown greater than \$383,432)	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>(Unknown greater than \$564,816)</b>	<b>(Unknown greater than \$383,432)</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<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.  
This fiscal note contains 12 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Federal Funds	(\$205,000)	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>(\$205,000)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

- 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).

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>Local Government*</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\* Offsetting costs and reimbursements that net to \$0 for fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume that based on the current distribution of registered voters, the bill would require 41 satellite sites for advance voting for 17 election authorities using the 50,000 registered voter formula – St. Louis City (5), St. Louis County (6), Kansas City (4), Jackson County (4) and the counties of Cape Girardeau (1), Christian (1), Cole (1), Buchanan (1), Franklin (1), Cass (1), Platte (1), Jasper (1), Boone (2), Clay (3), Jefferson (2), Greene (3), St. Charles (4). The fiscal note assumes that each advance voting satellite voting location would be staffed by four election judges paid \$9 per hour for the 116 hours that they will be open for advance voting - a total of \$171,216 per election. Election authorities could also incur ongoing costs for maintenance of the satellite locations, including rent, utilities, and broadband internet service, in the approximate amount of \$500 per satellite location for one month or a total of \$20,500 per election.

Local election authorities would incur one-time costs for the purchase of equipment necessary for advance voting at the satellite locations, including accessible voting machines for disabled voters, laptop computers and printers:

1 accessible voting machine per satellite site= \$5,000

2 Laptop computers per satellite site = \$1,600

1 printer per satellite site = \$7,500

\$14,100 per satellite site multiplied by 41 satellite sites = \$578,100 initial start up costs, of which \$205,000 could be paid for with federal funds under the Help America Vote Act.

Advance voting would take approximately half the time to process as walk-in absentees, therefore advance voting at a central location should not result in increased costs to the election authorities, as elections staff would already be available to process walk-in absentee voters.

The effective date of the provisions is January 2012 so increased costs would occur to the state as follows:

FY 2012 – February 2012 presidential primary

FY 2013 – August 2012 primary election and November 2012 general election

FY 2014 - no elections

**Oversight** has shown the transfer out of general revenue and federal funds to the local election authorities for the payment of advance voting. Oversight assumes all money received by the local election authorities will be used to pay for the costs of this proposal and therefore the local costs will net to zero.

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ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials at the **Budget and Planning** assume the proposed legislation should not result in additional costs or savings to the Division of Budget and Planning.

This proposal requires the state to pay for the costs incurred by local election officials to implement its advanced voting provisions. These requirements would increase costs for general revenue. BAP defers to SOS for an estimate of these costs.

The proposal would also affect calculations required by Article X, Section 18e of the Missouri Constitution by expanding the current statutory authorization of local election authorities to charge reasonable fees for producing lists of absentee voters. BAP defers to SOS for an estimate of the proposal's effect on 18e calculations.

Officials at the **Kansas City Board of Election Commission** assume a cost of \$25,000 to \$40,000 per election.

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** assume the following costs:

Office/Central Location Expenses:

4 Election Judges @ \$100/each/per day X 13 days of advance voting period	\$5,200
1 Touch Screen Tech @ \$100/day X 13 days advance voting period	\$1,300
FICA (7.65% x salaries)	\$ 500
Workers Comp Ins.	\$ 150
Optical Scan Ballots 10,000 x \$.30/each	\$3,000
Shipping	\$ 100
Provisional Ballots 200 x \$.30/ each	<u>\$ 60</u>
Sub-Total for one election	\$10,310

Satellite Location Expenses:

4 Election Judges @ \$100/each/day x 13 days	\$5,200
1 TS Tech @ \$100/day x 13 days	\$1,300
FICA (7.65% x salaries)	\$ 500
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$ 150
Optical Scan Ballots 5000 x \$.30/each	\$1500
Shipping	\$ 100
Provisional Ballots 200 x \$.30/each	\$ 60
Office/location rent and CAM fees for one month	\$7000
Utilities for one month	\$ 450
Telephone setup/monthly fee	\$ 275
DSL Line setup/monthly fee	<u>\$ 325</u>

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Sub-Total for Satellite location for one election	\$16,860
One-Time Expenses:	
Workstation & Monitor	\$3000
Printer	\$ 500
Cables	<u>\$ 100</u>
Sub-Total for Satellite location one-time expenses	\$3600
Updated Electioneering Posters for 100 feet parameter	<u>\$200</u>
Sub-Total for Satellite location one-time expenses	\$3800
<b>Total per federal/state elections</b>	<b>\$30,970</b>

Officials at the **St. Charles County Clerk** assume the following costs:

One-Time Capital Improvement Costs: \$70,000

Recurring Costs for Each Election:

For additional judges, overtime hours, election  
equipment maintenance, full-time and temporary workers \$56,300  
Additional ballot printing \$6,000 to \$12,000

Additional costs associated with satellite locations:

Rent: \$ 28,800  
Judges: \$100,000  
Van rental/workers to deliver ballots: \$ 8,800  
Ballots: \$147,000  
Secure Storage at satellite sites: \$ 10,000  
Saturday & Sunday Overtime: \$ 3,000

Officials at the **Jackson County Board of Election Commission** assume the following costs:

Oversight of Advanced Voting would require at least one person to coordinate all aspects of the operation.

Annual Cost for Coordinator: \$35,000.00  
Other related 1 (one) time cost:  
6 Additional Precinct Ballot Counters \$59,100.00  
60 Additional Voting Booths \$15,000.00  
6 Laptop Computers \$ 5,400.00  
Total one time cost: \$79,500.00

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ASSUMPTION (continued)

**COST PER ELECTION:**

Jackson County Election Board had 234,109 registered voters. Based on the formula of one satellite site per 50,000 voters, we would have to do 6 locations do to the logistics of our jurisdiction to insure nondiscrimination in the representation of our registered voters.

Site Rental based on current real estate rates: 6 locations	\$63,000.00
Internet Cable Connection to Missouri	
Central Voter Registration Data Base: 6 locations	\$ 1,800.00
Misc. Supplies and expenses	\$ 5,000.00
Election Services Fund	\$ 9,623.00
Ballot Printing	\$ 1,000.00
Ballots	<u>\$12,903.00</u>
Total	\$93,326.00

Legal Public Notice	\$20,735.00
Election Judges for 6 locations 20 days	\$92,460.00
Election Assistant/Technician 6 locations 20 days	<u>\$18,210.00</u>
Total	\$110,670.00

ONE TIME COST \$ 79,500.00

ONGOING COST \$ 35,000.00

GRAND TOTAL FOR ONE ELECTION \$224,731.00

GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL 3 COUNTY-WIDE ELECTIONS \$674,193.00

Officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Election Commission** assume the following costs:  
 Assumptions: This bill does not require paper ballots, and only requires advance voting for federal elections. The intent of this note is to delineate all direct costs (one-time, startup and recurring) to the LEA. Costs are calculated assuming one central location and six satellite sites will be utilized. Satellite sites will be open during regular business hours (10 hrs.) on weekdays and until 12:00 p.m. on Saturdays (5 hrs.) during the voting period.

1ST YEAR (2012) RECURRING FIXED COSTS (Annual):

Satellite Site Costs	
Site Lease (21 days continuous) \$250 per day x 6 sites x 3 elections	\$94,500
Equipment set-up, delivery, pick-up, storage, truck rental fees	
\$2,000 per site x 6 sites x 3 elections	\$36,000
High-Speed internet MIFI monthly fees 12 months @\$60/mo x 6 sites	\$4,320
Travel/mileage Reimbursement \$.55 per mile x 30 miles average	
per FTE x 2 per site x 6 sites x 13 working days x 3 elections	\$7,722
24 hr. security \$240 per day x 6 sites x 21 days x 3 elections	\$90,720

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ASSUMPTION (continued)

Office supplies, pens, paper, etc.\$20 per site x 7sites x 3 elections	\$420
Legal Review \$125 per hr. x 6 hrs per site x 6 sites	<u>\$4,500</u>
Total Recurring Satellite Site Costs: .....	\$238,182

Full-time Labor

Thirty (30) additional FTEs (“full-time equivalents”), (2 per site), (6 sites) @ \$32,000 per year	\$384,000
Benefits (\$11,729 x 14)	\$164,206
Trainers (\$16.00 per hr. x 6 hrs. x 2 sessions x 2 trainers)	\$384
Site Research and Setup (\$18.00 per hr. x 500 hrs.)	<u>\$9,000</u>
Total Full-time labor costs:	\$557,590

Part-time Labor

Ninety (90) additional PTEs (“part-time equivalents”), (6 per site), 7 sites @ \$10.00 per hr. x 10 hrs. per day x 12 days per election x 3 elections	\$151,200
Benefits (\$410 x 42 x 3 elections)	\$51,660
Training (\$10.00 per hr. x 6 hrs. x 42 PTEs)	<u>\$2,520</u>
Total Part-time labor costs:	\$205,380

Total Annual year labor Costs: \$1,001,152

Miscellaneous Costs

Software License Maintenance/Upgrades 56 DREs @ \$159 each per year (8 per site), (6 sites)	\$8,904
PC Laptop Software Maintenance/Upgrades 24 Laptops @ \$250 per year (4 per site), (6 sites)	\$6,000
Informational Postcards for advance voting 447,275 households x .20 x two (3) elections	\$268,365
Processing fees for providing voter lists	
Paper, CD’s, mailing fees, personnel time	<u>\$18,312</u>
Total Recurring Miscellaneous Costs	\$301,581

Total Recurring Annual Costs: \$1,302,733

NON-RECURRING, START UP COSTS

Equipment	
24 laptop PCs @ \$1,000 each (4 per site) x 6 sites	\$24,000
56 DREs @ \$3,500 each (8 per site) x 6 sites	\$168,000

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ASSUMPTION (continued)

14 SSTs (Security, Transport, Storage) Carts @ \$570 each for DREs (2 per site) x 6 sites	\$6,840
6 High-Speed internet MIFI cards @ \$300.00 per card	\$1,800
Tables, chairs, signs, posters cell phones \$400 per site x 6	\$2,400
Training manuals	<u>\$1,000</u>
Total non-recurring equipment costs:	\$204,040

Labor	
One (1) additional FTE, @ \$32,000 per year for 3 months for site research and setup.	\$8,000
Benefits	\$2,665
One (1) additional FTE, @ \$43,000 per year for 6 months for programming changes	\$21,500
Benefits	<u>\$7,881</u>
Total non-recurring labor costs:	\$40,046

Total non-recurring Costs: ..... \$244,086

Total Costs 1st Year (2012)	\$1,546,819
Total Costs 2nd Year (2013).....	none
Total Costs 3rd Year (2014)	\$1,302,733

Officials at the **Office of Prosecution Services, Office of the State Courts Administrator** and the **Office of the State Public Defender** assume that there is no fiscal impact from this proposal.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** state 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 \$2,500. 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

ASSUMPTION (continued)

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.

**Oversight** assumes that since this proposal allows for advance voting at a central location and the local election authorities already provide absentee voting at a central location then the election authorities would have no additional costs for the central location voting. The only election authorities with additional costs from this proposal are the 17 election authorities required to provide voting at additional locations.

Officials at the following board of election commissions: Kansas City Board of Election Commission, St. Louis City Board of Election Commission and the Clay County Board of Election Commission did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

Officials at the following counties: Andrew, Barry, Bates, Boone, Buchanan, Butler, Callaway, Camden, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Cole, Cooper, DeKalb, Franklin, Greene, Hickory, Holt, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Laclede, Lafayette, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, New Madrid, Nodaway, Ozark, Pemiscot, Perry, Phelps, Platte, Pulaski, Scott, St. Louis, St. Francois, Taney, Texas, Warren, and Webster did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2012 (10 Mo.)	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Transfer Out - Secretary of State</u>			
Cost of election reimbursed by state to local election authorities for advance voting	<u>(Unknown greater than \$564,816)</u>	<u>(Unknown greater than \$383,432)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b><u>(Unknown greater than \$564,816)</u></b>	<b><u>(Unknown greater than \$383,432)</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

**FEDERAL FUNDS**

Transfer Out - Federal Funds

Cost of election reimbursed by federal funds to local election authorities for advance voting	<u>(\$205,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS**

<u>(\$205,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government

FY 2012 (10 Mo.)	FY 2013	FY 2014
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**LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES**

Transfer In - Local Election Authorities

Reimbursement of election expenses from general revenue	Unknown greater than \$564,816	Unknown greater than \$383,432	\$0
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Transfer In - Local Election Authorities

Reimbursement of election expenses from federal fund	\$205,000	\$0	\$0
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Cost - Local Election Authorities

Election expenses paid	<u>(Unknown greater than \$769,816)</u>	<u>(Unknown greater than \$383,432)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES**

<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

## FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning January 1, 2012, this bill allows voters to cast advance ballots starting on the third Wednesday before any election. Any registered voter may vote by advance ballot at the central voting location designated by the election authority. Voting will be allowed on weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturdays until 12:00 p.m. through the close of regular business hours on the Wednesday before the election.

For federal elections, up to six satellite voting sites must be provided by the election authority with one satellite site established for every 50,000 registered voters. For other elections, the use of satellite sites is discretionary. An election authority must provide information about the central voting location and the satellite sites on its web site and at its offices and may publicize the location of the other sites through other means. These satellite sites will be subject to the supervision of election judges with at least one judge from each major political party at each site.

Any voter casting more than one type of ballot during the same election will be guilty of a class one election offense. The disclosure of voting lists containing the names of those using either advance ballots or absentee ballots to unauthorized persons will be a class four election offense. Persons voting by advance ballot will receive the same protections as those voting by absentee ballot.

The bill also increases from 25 to 100 feet of a polling place's outer door the prohibition of exit polling, surveying, sampling, electioneering, distributing election literature, posting signs, or placing vehicles bearing signs regarding any candidate or question on an election day.

Certain provisions requiring the election authority to record information regarding advance and absentee ballots in St. Louis and Kansas City and the counties of Jackson and St. Louis are removed to require all election authorities to record the information.

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

Budget and Planning  
Jackson County Board of Election Commission  
Kansas City Board of Election Commission  
Office of Prosecution Services  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Office of the State Public Defender  
Platte County Board of Election Commission  
St. Charles County Clerk  
St. Louis County Board of Election Commission



Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
March 18, 2011