

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **HB 400** HLS 26RS 359
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 19, 2026 1:09 PM	Author: FONTENOT
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State/Locals	
Subject: Local Bond and Tax Proposition Elections	Analyst: Kimberly Fruge

ELECTION DAYS EG SEE FISC NOTE LF EX Page 1 of 2
 Provides that bond and tax elections shall be held only on regularly scheduled fall election dates

Proposed law restricts election propositions for political subdivisions related to bonded indebtedness and special taxes to regularly scheduled fall elections (statewide congressional election, statewide gubernatorial election, and Orleans municipal election).

Proposed law is effective January 1, 2028, if the proposed constitutional amendment contained in HB 393 is approved by the voters on November 3, 2026.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$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	\$0	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$0
Annual Total	\$0					\$0

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0					\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable decrease in Local Fund expenditures in FYs 28, 29, and 31, to the extent a political subdivision places a bond or tax proposition on one of the fall, statewide election ballots when it would have otherwise placed it on a spring, non-statewide election ballot. Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in Local Fund expenditures in FY 30, to the extent a political subdivision places a bond or tax proposition on one of the fall, non-statewide election ballots when it would have otherwise placed it on a spring, statewide election ballot. The exact fiscal impact is indeterminable, as it is unknown how many political subdivisions will place a proposition on the fall ballot rather than the spring ballot.

Proposed law has the effect of limiting when a political subdivision can place a bond or tax proposition on the ballot. Under current law, political subdivisions can place items on the ballot of any regular scheduled election. Proposed law restricts bond and tax propositions to regularly scheduled fall elections. This limits bond and tax propositions to statewide elections in congressional (FYs 29 and 31) and gubernatorial (FY 28) election years and to non-statewide elections in odd-numbered years without a gubernatorial election (FY 30).

When a local election is held during a scheduled statewide election, the local governing authority is responsible for a prorated portion of the election's cost, with the Secretary of State covering the majority of the cost. By restricting the eligible elections for bond and tax propositions to fall statewide elections in FY 28, 29, and 31, political subdivisions may realize a decrease in expenditures related to elections if they would have otherwise scheduled the election during a spring non-statewide election.

If a local election occurs without any statewide offices or constitutional amendments, the local governing authority is responsible for the full cost of the election. The SOS covers the cost of the election initially and then bills the local governing authorities for reimbursement. By restricting the eligible elections for bond and tax propositions to fall non-statewide elections in FY 30, political subdivisions may realize an increase in expenditures related to elections if they would have otherwise scheduled the election during a spring statewide election.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable decrease in SGR collected by the Secretary of State (SOS) in FYs 28, 29, and 31, and an indeterminable increase in SGR collected in FY 30, to the extent a political subdivision places a bond or tax proposition on one of the fall election ballots when it would have otherwise placed it on a spring ballot. The exact fiscal impact is indeterminable, as it is unknown how many political subdivisions will place a proposition on the fall ballot rather than the spring ballot.

CONTINUED PAGE TWO

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {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} |


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 400** HLS 26RS 359
Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 19, 2026 1:09 PM	Author: FONTENOT
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State/Locals	
Subject: Local Bond and Tax Proposition Elections	Analyst: Kimberly Fruge

CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

Page 2 of 2

REVENUE EXPLANATION CONTINUED:

When a local election is held during a scheduled statewide election, the local governing authority is responsible for a prorated portion of the election's cost, with the Secretary of State covering the majority of the cost. The SOS covers the full cost of the election initially and then bills political subdivisions for their prorated portion of the election. For statewide elections the reimbursements collected by the department is significantly less than the reimbursements collected during non-statewide elections. By restricting the eligible elections for bond and tax propositions to fall statewide elections in FY 28, 29, and 31, the SOS may experience a decrease in revenues if political subdivisions place items on the fall ballot when they would have otherwise placed them on the spring ballot.

If a local election occurs without any statewide offices or constitutional amendments, the local governing authority is responsible for the full cost of the election. The SOS covers the cost of the election initially and then bills the local governing authorities for reimbursement. Reimbursements collected for non-statewide elections are significantly more than those collected for statewide collections. By restricting the eligible elections for bond and tax propositions to fall non-statewide elections in FY 30, the SOS may experience an increase in revenues if political subdivisions place items on the fall ballot when they would have otherwise placed them on the spring ballot.

Senate Dual Referral Rules


13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House

6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer