



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 35** HLS 22RS 393
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: February 15, 2022 10:41 AM	Author: FARNUM
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State	
Subject: Supplemental Annual Canvass, Address Confirmation Card	Analyst: Kimberly Fruge

VOTING/REGISTRATION OR +\$268,375 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides for a supplemental annual canvass of registered voters

Proposed law requires the Secretary of State (SOS) to conduct a supplemental annual canvass of the following: (1) registrants whose names did not appear with correct addresses provided by the US post office; (2) registrants who have not voted in 10 years; and (3) registrants who failed to make an application for voter registration, request an absentee ballot, changed a name, address, or party affiliation or any other change in their registration, or participated in the nursing home program in the past 10 years. Proposed law requires the SOS to send these registrants prepaid postage and pre-addressed "supplemental address confirmation cards" by forwardable mail, which has been reviewed by House Governmental Affairs and Senate Governmental Affairs committees. Proposed law requires registrants who are sent confirmation cards to be placed on the inactive list of voters until registrants confirm their address is correct. Proposed law provides for cancellation of registration after two Federal general elections if a registrant fails to respond to the confirmation card. Proposed law provides confirmation cards to be retained for 2 years and open to inspection. Proposed law requires bi-annual publication of inactive voters in the official journal of the parish government or newspapers. Proposed law is effective 3/31/2023.

EXPENDITURES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$268,375	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$268,375
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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total	\$268,375					\$268,375

REVENUES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in an SGF expenditure increase of \$268,375 in FY 23 as well as a recurring expenditure increase of \$21,638 in FY 24 and subsequent fiscal years. Since the costs for supplemental address confirmation cards is minimal in subsequent fiscal years, the SOS has indicated that any expenditure increase can likely be accomplished by utilizing existing resources. Proposed law requires the Secretary of State (SOS) to conduct a supplemental annual canvass by sending out supplemental address confirmation cards to the following registrants: (1) registrants whose name did not appear with correct addresses provided by the US post office; (2) registrants who have not voted in 10 years; and (3) registrants who failed to engage in certain activities in the past 10 years.

To implement proposed law, the SOS anticipates one-time expenditures of \$52,000 (520 hours x \$100 per hour) for IT program development changes within the Election Registration and Information Network (ERIN) system. IT programing development may take up to 7 months to complete. Based upon recent canvass lists, approximately 150,000 registrants would be sent supplemental address confirmation cards in FY 23 under this measure. Currently address confirmation cards cost \$0.49 each to print and mail. The estimated cost to mail supplemental address confirmation cards is \$73,500 (150,000 cards x \$0.49). The proposed law requires business reply mail and prepaid return postage that costs \$1.27 per card (\$0.81 business reply/forward and \$0.46 return postage). Assuming 75% of registrants return their confirmation card, the estimated cost is \$142,875 (75% of 150,000 X \$1.27) However, to the extent the percentage of registrants that return their confirmation cards increases, the costs associated with return postage under this measure would be higher.

Proposed Law Expenditures in FY 2023

IT Programing (one-time expenditure)	\$52,000
Mail Out Postage Confirmation Cards	\$73,500
Return Postage Confirmation Cards	<u>\$142,875</u>
Total	\$268,375

To continue implementing the proposed law in subsequent fiscal years, the SOS anticipates 10% of the original 150,000 registrants will be sent supplemental address confirmation cards. The estimated cost to mail supplemental address confirmation cards is \$7,350 (10% of 150,000 x \$0.49 per card). Assuming 75% of registrants return their confirmation card, the estimated cost is \$14,288 (75% x 15,000 x \$1.27). However, to the extend the percentage of registrants that return their confirmation cards increases, the costs associated with return postage under this measure would be higher.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate
 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}

Evan Brasseaux

Evan Brasseaux
 Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer