



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 449** HLS 23RS 830  
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 11, 2023 6:03 AM	<b>Author:</b> WILLARD
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Department of State	
<b>Subject:</b> Voting Accessibility	<b>Analyst:</b> Kimberly Fruge

VOTERS/VOTING EG INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1  
 Provides relative to the rights of voters with disabilities

Proposed law requires the Department of State to include it the instructional material and on examinations information and procedures pertaining to the rights of voters with disabilities.

Proposed law requires the Secretary of State to appoint an Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer to serve as the point of contract for election day accessibility issues and to conduct accessibility audits. Proposed law creates the Voting Accessibility Advisory Group to consult on voting accessibility issues.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>	<u>2027-28</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>	<u>2027-28</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will increase SGF expenditures by an interminable, but significant, amount to reproduce instructions and informational pamphlets, to appoint an American with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer, and to conduct a biannual audit of election systems.

Proposed law requires the Secretary of State (SOS) to provide instructions to commissioners on how to comply with laws pertaining to rights of voters with disabilities. The department has indicated that they would need to reprint the instructions and informational pamphlets for all precincts, an estimated cost of \$60,000.

Proposed law requires the SOS appoint an American with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer and set the salary. The department estimates this position will have a salary of approximately \$80,000 and related benefits of approximately of \$44,800, a total of \$124,800. The department assumes a 3% annual increase in salary for merit based raises. To the extent the department is able to appoint someone from existing staff, these costs may be reduced.

Proposed law requires the compliance officer to conduct and issue a biannual audit. The department will likely incur additional costs to conduct the audit. The magnitude of these costs is unknown at this time.

This measure also creates the Voting Accessibility Advisory Group in the Department of State to consult on voting accessibility issues. The group is comprised of at least seven members, selected by the SOS. The LFO anticipates that these members will volunteer participation and that any costs associated with the advisory group will be absorbed within the department's existing budget.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

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

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}

*Evan Brasseaux*  
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**Evan Brasseaux**  
 Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer