Fiscal Note On:	**HB 17** HLS 241ES 22
Bill Text Version:	**REENGROSSED**
Opp. Chamb. Action:	**w/ SEN COMM AMD**
Proposed Amd.:	
Sub. Bill For.:	

Date: January 19, 2024 7:34 AM	**Author:** EMERSON
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State	
Subject: Closed Party Primary	**Analyst:** Kimberly Fruge

ELECTIONS   RE1 INCREASE GF EX See Note   Page 1 of 2

Provides for closed party primary elections for certain offices (Items #7, #8, and #10)

Proposed law creates a closed party primary system for congressional elections and the Louisiana Supreme Court starting in Spring 2026. Proposed law provides that voters are required to be members of the recognized political party to participate in its primary unless the bylaws and regulations of the party's state central committee allow for unaffiliated voters to participate. Proposed law provides that the candidate who receives the majority of votes in a party primary election qualifies for the general election. Proposed law provides for a runoff second party primary election in the case that no candidate receives a majority of votes in the first party primary election.

Proposed law effective January 1, 2026.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	$0	$19,660,692	$0	$9,553,570	$0	**$29,214,262**
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	$0	$0	$0	$0	**$0**
Annual Total	**$0**	**$19,660,692**	**$0**	**$9,553,570**	**$0**	**$29,214,262**

REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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	$0	$0	$0	$0	**$0**
Annual Total	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in a significant increase in SGF expenditures in FY 26 and a potentially significant increase in FY 28 for the Secretary of State to prepare for and implement a closed party primary system for United States congressional offices and Louisiana Supreme Court Justices starting in the Spring of 2026. **The LFO estimates that the minimum exposure is approximately $11.7 M in FY 26. The maximum exposure for FY 26 is approximately $19.7 M and the maximum exposure for FY 28 is approximately $9.5 M. These costs will depend on whether and how many runoff elections, or second party primary elections, will occur. To the extent any runoff elections do not require a full statewide election, maximum exposure costs for FY 26 and FY 28 will decrease accordingly. The maximum exposure is shown in the expenditure table above.**
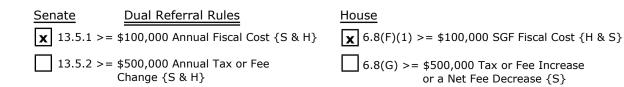
FY 26 Election:
The implementation of a closed party primary will require the Secretary of State to hold a new statewide election in FY 26. The costs of the statewide election are enumerated in the "Minimum Exposure" column below. The costs in FY 26 will depend on whether and how many runoff elections, or second party primary elections, will occur. If all six congressional districts need to hold a runoff election, then the Secretary of State will have to hold an additional statewide election, represented by the "Maximum Exposure" column below.

	Minimum Exposure	Maximum Exposure
Election costs	$7,000,000	$14,000,000
Supplies	$1,775,035	$ 2,264,622
Operating services	$ 304,000	$ 347,000
Overtime for election support staff including travel	$ 205,000	$ 410,000
ROV part-time staff	$ 194,535	$ 389,070
Ballot printing	$ 75,000	$ 150,000
Total	**$9,553,570**	**$17,560,692**

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	
☒ 13.5.1 >= $100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		☒ 6.8(F)(1) >= $100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	*Alan M. Boxberger*
☐ 13.5.2 >= $500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		☐ 6.8(G) >= $500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	**Alan M. Boxberger** **Legislative Fiscal Officer**

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

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EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED:

One-time Expenditures:
In addition to the costs to hold a statewide election the Secretary of State indicates an increase of $2.1 M in one-time expenditures for IT programming ($100,000) and voters outreach ($2 M) in FY 26 to prepare for the closed party primary system.

The total costs for FY 26 is estimated at $11.7 M ($9.6 M in various election expenses + $2.1 M in one-time costs) at a minimum and $19.7 M ($17.6 M in various election expenses + $2.1 M in one-time costs) at a maximum.

FY 28 Election:
There is an existing presidential primary election scheduled in March 2028. The United State Congressional and Louisiana Supreme Court Justice races will be added to this ballot. However, the requirement for a majority vote to move on to the general ballot means the Secretary of State may have to hold runoff elections. If all six congressional districts need to hold a runoff election, then the Secretary of State will have to hold an additional statewide election in FY 28. The costs of holding that additional election is represented below.

	FY 28 Maximum Exposure
Election costs	$7,000,000
Supplies	$1,775,035
Operating services	$ 304,000
Overtime for election support staff including travel	$ 205,000
ROV part-time staff	$ 194,535
Ballot printing	$ 75,000
Total	**$9,553,570**

To the extent any runoff elections do not require a full statewide election, maximum exposure costs for FY 26 and FY 28 will decrease accordingly.

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	
[x] 13.5.1 >= $100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		[x] 6.8(F)(1) >= $100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	
[ ] 13.5.2 >= $500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		[ ] 6.8(G) >= $500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	*Alan M. Boxberger*
Alan M. Boxberger
Legislative Fiscal Officer