

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



Fiscal Note On: **HB 324** HLS 24RS 508  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 25, 2024 5:46 PM	<b>Author:</b> BOYD
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Department of State	
<b>Subject:</b> Early voting on Sundays	<b>Analyst:</b> Kimberly Fruge

VOTERS/VOTING OR +\$699,828 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1  
 Provides for early voting on Sundays

Current law provides for early voting to occur 14 to 7 days prior to a non-presidential election, except on Sundays, and 18 to 7 days prior to a presidential election, except on Sundays. Proposed law adds Sundays to the early voting period.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	<b>\$699,828</b>	<b>\$494,873</b>	<b>\$659,828</b>	<b>\$659,828</b>	<b>\$659,828</b>	<b>\$3,174,185</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	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will result in a significant increase in SGF expenditures by the Department of State and an indeterminable increase in Local Funds expenditures for Registrars of Voters to extend the early voting to include Sundays. By extending the early voting period, proposed law would increase overtime and travel expenses for Election Operations Division staff within the Secretary of State (SOS) as well as overtime expenses for Registrars of Voters and costs for Early Voting Commissioners hired to assist with early voting. The SOS reports a one-time expenditure of \$40,000 is necessary for IT development to implement the proposed law.

The Secretary of State estimates the cost per Sunday of early voting would be \$164,957, which includes the average overtime costs per day for Registrar of Voters (\$87,700), part-time Registrar of Voters staff (\$1,200), Early Voting Election Commissioners (\$59,600), staff within the SOS's Election Operations Division (\$15,750), and overtime for IT help desk staff (\$707). For the presidential elections in FY 25 and FY 29, the proposed law extends early voting by two days, for all other elections proposed law extends early voting by one day. The SOS assumes non-statewide elections will decrease costs by 50%, to \$82,479. To the extent municipal/local elections happen in more or less than 50% of the state then costs will increase or decrease accordingly.

Below is a breakdown of costs for the additional days of early voting per fiscal year:

- FY 25 - \$659,828 - 1 presidential statewide election (2 Sundays), 1 regular statewide election, 2 non-statewide elections
- FY 26 - \$494,873 - 2 statewide elections, 2 non-statewide elections
- FY 27 - \$659,828 - 4 statewide elections
- FY 28 - \$659,828 - 4 statewide elections
- FY 29 - \$659,828 - 1 presidential statewide election (2 Sundays), 1 regular statewide election, 2 non-statewide elections

Election expenses incurred by the registrar of voters to perform responsibilities associated with early voting are paid by the state and are considered reimbursable expenses. The appropriate local governing authority is responsible for reimbursing the state based on the pro rata share of any instruments included on the ballot.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may result in an increase in SGR revenues for the Department of State. Election expenses are paid upfront by the department and local governing authorities reimburse the department for a fraction of the costs based on the pro rata shares of any instruments included on the ballot. Any increase in revenue as a result of the proposed law is unknown.

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}

**Patrice Thomas**  
 Deputy Fiscal Officer