



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 419** HLS 24RS 540
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 27, 2024 6:46 PM	Author: RISER
Dept./Agy.: Department of State	
Subject: Compensation for Commissioners	Analyst: Kimberly Fruge

ELECTIONS/COMMISSIONERS EG INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to compensation for parish board commissioners, election commissioners, and commissioners-in-charge

Proposed law increases the compensations for commissioners-in-charge, commissioners-in-charge who serve at more than one precinct, commissioners who have received a certificate of instruction, and uncertified commissioner by \$50.

Proposed law increases the minimum and maximum allowable compensation for a parish board commissioner by \$50, from \$50 or \$100 to \$100 or \$150, subject the application of the parish board of election supervisors and approval of the Secretary of State. In addition, proposed law allows parish board commissioners to serve during an election recount.

Proposed law increases the maximum increased compensation for commissioners who work an election held within one year following a gubernatorial declaration of an emergency by \$50, subject the application of the parish board of election supervisors and approval of the Secretary of State.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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						
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 by the Secretary of State's (SOS) office due to a \$50 increase in compensation for various commissioners. This increase in costs is nuanced and situational and will vary year to year based on the type and number of elections held that year, how many days the parish board commissioners are required to meet, and whether there is a declared emergency within one year of the election.

Page two of this fiscal note discusses the potential increase in costs per statewide election, depicted in the table below. The SOS generally estimates the costs for municipal/non-statewide elections at 50% of a statewide; however, depending on how many municipalities participate in the non-statewide election, these costs can increase or decrease accordingly. There are currently two statewide and two non-statewide elections scheduled in FY 25, FY 26, and FY 29, and four statewide elections scheduled in FY 27 and FY 28. For the purposes of this fiscal note, the potential increase per statewide election is \$964,800 and the increase per non-statewide election is \$471,650. **Proposed law could result in an increase of \$2.9 M in FY 25, FY 26, and FY 29 and \$3.9 M in FY 27 and FY 28.** If there is a declared emergency or recount, costs would increase further. If the SOS consolidates precincts or the maximum pay is not utilized for parish board commissioners, then costs will decrease accordingly.


	<u>Statewide</u>	<u>Non-Statewide</u>
Commissioners-in-Charge	\$196,000	\$98,000
Commissioners	\$747,300	\$373,650
Parish Board Commissioners	\$21,500	\$0
Total	\$964,800	\$471,650

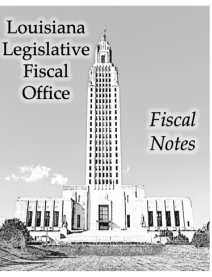
EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	House
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		<input checked="" 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



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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED:

Per Statewide Election

Commissioner-in-Charge: There are 3,920 precincts in the state that have voters. Assuming no commissioners-at-charge over more than one precinct are used, this means that there will be 3,920 commissioners-in-charge. At a \$50 increase, this would result in an additional expenditure of \$196,000 for each statewide election. To the extent commissioners-in-charge who serve at more than one precinct are utilized instead of one commissioner per precinct, then costs will decrease accordingly.

Commissioners: Precincts with less than 300 voters utilize three commissioners and precincts with more than 300 voters utilize four commissioners. There are 734 precincts with less than 300 voters and 3,186 precincts with more than 300 voters for a total of 14,946 commissioners statewide. For a \$50 increase, this would result in an additional expenditure of \$747,300 per statewide election.

Parish Board Commissioners: The number of parish board commissioners varies from election to election. The SOS estimates for presidential and gubernatorial elections, there are approximately 215 parish board commissioners. The current base pay for parish board commissioners is \$50 but can be increased to \$100 with the approval of the Secretary of State; proposed law increases this to \$100 minimum and \$150 maximum. Under the assumption that all parish board commissioners were getting paid \$50, then expenditures will increase by \$10,750 at a minimum and \$21,500 if the maximum is approved per day per statewide election. To the extent, some or all parish board commissioners were making the maximum amount, then the daily costs will decrease accordingly.

Proposed law also allows a parish board commissioner to service during a recount. It is not possible to determine when recounts will take place or how many parish board commissioners will be needed.

Declaration of Emergency Additional Compensation: Proposed law increases the maximum increased compensation for commissioners who work an election held within one year following a gubernatorial declaration of an emergency by \$50, subject to the application of the parish board of election supervisors and approval of the Secretary of State. It is not possible to determine when a declaration of emergency will happen and what impact it may have on the cost of the election.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
[X] 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
[] 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
[X] 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}

Signature of Patrice Thomas
Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer