

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 270** HLS 26RS 1032

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 27, 2026 1:58 PM	Author: LANDRY, TERRY JR
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State	Analyst: Kimberly Fruge
Subject: Absentee Voting by Mail by Qualified Incarcerated Voters	

VOTERS/VOTING

OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX

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Provides for absentee voting by mail by qualified incarcerated voters

Current law provides that a person incarcerated in an institution inside or outside the parish in which he is qualified to vote, who is not under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony, may only vote absentee by mail and only upon meeting the requirements of the election code and certification to the appropriate registrar by the sheriff of the parish where the person is incarcerated that he is not a convicted felon; provides that a person who registers to vote by mail and has not previously voted in the parish in which he is registered shall vote in person; provides for exceptions.

Proposed law adds to the list of exceptions to having to vote in person after registering by mail and not previously voting in the parish, a person who is incarcerated in an institution inside or outside the parish in which he is qualified to vote and who requests to vote absentee by mail pursuant to current law.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	\$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

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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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 may result in an increase in SGF expenditures for the Secretary of State to update software to allow a person who is incarcerated in an institution inside or outside the parish in which he is qualified to vote and who requests to vote absentee by mail, pursuant to current law, even if he registers to vote by mail and has not previously voted in the parish in which he is registered. Current law provides for various exemptions to needing to vote in person after registering to vote by mail in a parish that the voter has not previously voted in. Adding an additional exception may require upgrades to voting systems to process absentee by mail voting ballots for these voters. The exact fiscal impact is indeterminable at this time, but is not anticipated to be significant.

Note: Due to ongoing litigation related to this topic, the Secretary of State, based upon the advice of counsel, was unable to provide information for this fiscal note. The cost illustrated in this fiscal note is an estimate by the LFO based on similar past legislation.

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}

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}

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer