

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 203** HLS 14RS 700
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 11, 2014 4:54 PM	Author: BROSSETT
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State	Analyst: Stephanie C. Blanchard
Subject: Early voting	

ELECTIONS OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides for the conduct of early voting on the Sunday during the early voting period from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Present law defines "early voting" as the period of time from 14 days to seven days prior to any scheduled election when a person who is qualified to vote may vote in person at a place designated by the registrar. Provides that during the early voting period, the registrar shall maintain regular office hours, remaining open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Proposed law additionally provides that the registrar shall remain open from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday during the early voting period.

EXPENDITURES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation will result in an indeterminable increase in state general fund expenditures for the Secretary of State. This bill requires the Secretary of State to establish early voting on Sunday during the early voting period. Pursuant to R.S. 18:1309, the early voting runs from 14 days to 7 days prior to any scheduled election, which includes 2 Saturdays. This bill would add a third weekend day (Sunday).

Registrar of Voters may or may not utilize early voting commissioners on that Sunday. Early voting commissioners cost \$100 per person per day. Some offices use part time employees and these employees would be paid at their normal rate of pay which is approximately \$9 per hour. Pursuant to R.S. 18:1400.8, Registrars of Voters and their staff are currently paid overtime for the two Saturdays of early voting and for Saturday elections. Those who work early voting on Sunday would earn compensatory time for the extra hours. The Secretary of State would be required to pay any employees who work this extra day and have exceeded the compensatory time threshold.

Registrar of Voters offices and other early voting locations may also require building security for the extra day. This cost would be based on local pay scales and cannot be determined because it is not known how many will use security personnel and how many will be needed. These costs would be split between the Secretary of State and the local jurisdictions.

The Secretary of State Elections Operations staff supports early voting statewide weekend days. According to the Secretary of State, additional staff is needed to rotate for the three weekend days for early voting and to add to the Saturday election day for statewide support. The Secretary of State estimates that 4 additional Election Program Specialist positions and 1 IT Technical Support Specialty position for a total cost of approximately \$272,000 are needed.

Based upon the potential for limited additional work days, the Legislative Fiscal Office anticipates the need for additional overtime and/or temporary staff. However, the Legislative Fiscal Office does not believe 5 permanent TO positions will be necessary in order to work one additional day during the early voting period.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}	House <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S} <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	<i>Evan Brasseaux</i> Evan Brasseaux Staff Director
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