

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



Fiscal Note On: **HB 619** HLS 16RS 774

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 22, 2016 5:58 PM	<b>Author:</b> ZERINGUE
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Secretary of State	<b>Analyst:</b> Zachary Rau
<b>Subject:</b> Exceptions for Precincts Containing Fewer than 300 Voters	

**ELECTIONS/PRECINCTS**

OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX

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Provides relative to precincts with fewer than three hundred registered voters and the payment of election expenses in certain such precincts

Proposed law amends provisions of present law providing relative to precincts container fewer than 300 voters. Proposed law increases the mileage for an exception for geographically isolated areas from 10 to 15 miles and removes the ability of the Secretary of State to permit such precincts from existing under extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances unless it is in compliance with an exception pursuant to present law and accompanied by documentation to the Secretary of State, who has confirmed existence of the exception. Proposed law provides that precincts containing fewer that 300 voters that do not meet an exception outlined in present law must either merge with a neighboring precinct or be held responsible for all election expenses outlined in present law.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

  

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may decrease state general fund expenditures for the Secretary of State to the extent voting precincts containing fewer than 300 registered voters do not meet one of the exceptions outlined in LA R.S. 18:532(B)(4(a)(i)-(iii). This bill would require parish governing authorities to either merge precincts or pay all expenditures associated with elections as outlined in LA R.S. 18:1400.7 if they do not meet an exception allowing for them to have fewer than 300 voters. For reference, the Secretary of State estimates that the average election expenses for a single precinct total approximately \$1,200.

Expenditures for local governing authorities may increase to the extent voting precincts containing fewer than 300 registered voters do not meet one of the exceptions outlined in LA R.S. 18:532(B)(4(a)(i)-(iii) and local authorities do not merge the precinct with neighboring precinct. If this occurs, local governing authorities would be liable to pay for all election expenditures associated with the precinct.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Self-generated revenues for the Secretary of State may increase or decrease as a result of the proposed legislation. To the extent voting precincts that do not meet an exception allowing for them to have fewer than 300 voters do not merge, the precincts will have the option to fully fund their own election expenditures. As a result, the Secretary of State may realize an increase in revenues associated with precincts fully funding all elections. The Legislative Fiscal Office assumes the Secretary of State would fund election expenditures for these precincts and be reimbursed by the local governing authorities at a later date.

To the extent precincts consolidate, the Secretary of State may realize decreased self-generated revenue collections in the event the consolidated precincts carry a smaller overall cost and the Secretary of State receives fewer reimbursements associated with election cost-sharing.

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

*Evan Brasseaux*

**Evan Brasseaux**  
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