

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



Fiscal Note On: **HB 563** HLS 19RS 183  
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

**Date:** May 3, 2019 1:04 PM **Author:** MILLER, G.  
**Dept./Agy.:** Secretary of State **Analyst:** Willis Brewer  
**Subject:** Makes revisions to the Louisiana Election Code

ELECTION CODE EG SEE FISC NOTE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 1  
 Makes revisions to the Louisiana Election Code

Proposed law provides that if the National Voter Registration Day occurs after the close of the registration records for the regular fall primary election, the official state voter registration week is instead two weeks prior to the close. Present law (R.S. 18:1400.3) provides for election expenses incurred by clerks of court (clerk) and specifies permissible election expenses. Proposed law adds to the list of specified expenses those incurred to pay for law enforcement officers to control traffic on election day to the extent permitted by R.S. 18:428. Proposed law requires a list of watchers to be filed with the clerk in each parish where the candidate will have watchers if the office sought is voted on in more than one parish. Proposed law provides that the secretary of state will accept a withdrawal when the number of candidates remaining in a primary or general election for public office is one more than the number of persons to be elected to the office, instead of two, and that the remaining candidate(s) is declared the winner. Proposed law amends present law so that the procedures for examination, testing, approval, and procurement of voting machine applies to voting systems and system components instead of voting machines and counting equipment. Proposed law requires the parish governing authority to furnish geospatial shape files if available for specified districts. Proposed law provides remedies for an action contesting an election on a proposition.

| <b>EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>2019-20</b> | <b>2020-21</b> | <b>2021-22</b> | <b>2022-23</b> | <b>2023-24</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>2019-20</b> | <b>2020-21</b> | <b>2021-22</b> | <b>2022-23</b> | <b>2023-24</b> | <b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b> |
| State Gen. Fd.      | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | <b>\$0</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         | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <b>\$0</b>           |
| <b>Annual Total</b> | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>           |

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law is not anticipated to create a material expenditure impact to the Secretary of State (SOS), outside of promulgating administrative and technical changes to the state election code. Proposed law provides for multiple changes to the Louisiana Election Code, including the timing of the appointment of a new registrar of voters; establishing precinct boundaries with geospatial shape files, if available, in addition to a map; refining procedures for filing lists of poll watchers; and authorizing the reimbursement for security officers for parking control at precincts on election day, among others. SOS does not anticipate there will be an increase in the need for security. Parking control security has routinely been requested by clerks and approved, but this will allow greater flexibility at the precincts. Furthermore, proposed law provides for the same remedy (a new election) for proposition elections as for candidate and recall elections. To the extent a judge calls for a new election as a result of a contested proposition election, the additional expenditures for a new election would be paid by the state, the local government, or a shared amount, depending on the nature of the election, when it is called, and what the judge directs. The frequency and number of new elections resulting from proposed law is indeterminable.

SOS does not anticipate any of the other provisions in proposed law will create an additional cost to the precincts; however, to the extent additional costs do arise, the costs will be shared according to the nature of the election and the cost sharing that would or would not occur. Any additional expenditures would be paid from the SGF to cover the state's responsibility or from LF to cover the responsibility of individual precincts. The amount of increased expenditures and the responsible parties required to pay for any election arising from this legislation cannot be determined.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

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

Senate Dual Referral Rules  
 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}

*Evan Brasseaux*  
**Evan Brasseaux**  
**Staff Director**