

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



Fiscal Note On: **HB 581** HLS 21RS 594

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> April 25, 2021	2:16 PM	<b>Author:</b> JOHNSON, MIKE
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Secretary of State		<b>Analyst:</b> Patrice Thomas
<b>Subject:</b> Revisions to the LA Election Code - Omnibus Bill		

ELECTION CODE EG SEE FISC NOTE See Note  
Makes revisions to the Louisiana Election Code

Proposed law makes technical revisions to the LA Election Code (Title 18). Under present law, the principal office of the registrar shall remain open from 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m on election day and from 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. on congressional primary election day. Proposed law provides the principal office to remain open as provided in present law or until all precinct results have been submitted to the clerk of court and the absentee by mail and early voting results have been submitted to the registrar of voters, whichever is earlier. Effective 1/01/2022, proposed law adds the falsification (spoofing) by transmitting or otherwise providing false or misleading election information from a source disguised to be an election official's or impersonating an election official, which for 1st offense is a fine up to \$1,000, or up to a year prison term, or both, and 2nd and subsequent offense is a fine up to \$2,500, or up to a 5 year prison term, or both. Effective 2/01/2022, proposed law provides that forms and pamphlets that give explanation and instruction on campaign finance disclosure be made available via a link on the Secretary of State's website.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

  

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
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<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in local expenditures if any person is convicted of falsifying (spoofing) by providing false or misleading election information from a source disguised to be the Secretary of State, Clerk of Court, or Registrar of Voters, or impersonating an election official and sentenced up to one year of imprisonment (or up to five years for 2nd and subsequent offenses). The crime of spoofing or impersonation is a misdemeanor; therefore, persons convicted of these crimes may be sentenced to local jails and prisons for up to one year (or up to five years for 2nd and subsequent offenses). Local governing authorities may realize an indeterminable increase in expenditures. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this proposed law is indeterminable since it is not known how many people will be convicted of this crime.

The Secretary of State reports proposed revisions to the Election Code is not anticipated to materially impact state expenditures.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in local funds revenue as a result of potential fines if any person is convicted of knowingly, willfully, or intentionally impersonating the Secretary of State, Clerk of Court, or Registrar of Voters or spoofing election information from a source disguised to be an election official. Any person convicted may be fined as follows: 1st offense is up to \$1,000, imprisoned for up to one year, or both; 2nd and subsequent offense is up to \$2,500, imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both. Because the number of persons who may be convicted under the proposed law is unknown, revenue derived from this source is indeterminable. However, in the event fines are levied for this crime, they would accrue to local governing authorities.

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}

*Alan M. Boxberger*

**Alan M. Boxberger**  
**Staff Director**