



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 704** HLS 21RS 2067
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.: HB 599

Date: May 21, 2021 4:00 PM	Author: HODGES
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State	Analyst: Patrice Thomas
Subject: Super Watchers by Political Parties	

ELECTIONS RE SEE FISC NOTE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to elections

Proposed law allows the state central committee of each recognized political party having at least 25% of registered voters (currently the Republican Party and the Democratic Party) may have one watcher in every precinct as well as super watchers in each parish where that party is represented on the ballot in primary and general elections and the number of super watchers is based on the number of registered voters in each parish. Proposed law allows the state central committee of each recognized political party having at least 25% of registered voters may designate early voting watchers and alternative watcher at each early voting location. Proposed law removes electronic voting machine and defines secure paper ballot. Proposed law creates requirements for any new voting systems. Proposed law effective 1/01/2022.

EXPENDITURES	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
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>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	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>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The impact of the proposed law on State General Fund expenditures within the Secretary of State (SOS) for a replacement voting system is unknown. Beginning January 1, 2022, the proposed law requires the SOS to procure a new voting system that complies with specific criteria. The actual cost of replacing the voting system cannot be determined until the Request for Proposal (RFP) bid process is complete, therefore the cost of a new voting system is indeterminable. It is unknown if the criteria under the proposed law will impact the cost of the new voting system. The SOS reports the cost of a new voting system is estimated at \$60 M to \$90 M.

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}

Alan M. Boxberger

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