

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **HB 89** HLS 24RS 184
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 27, 2024 6:45 PM **Author:** BAGLEY
Dept./Agy.: Department of State **Analyst:** Kimberly Fruge
Subject: Number of employees in ROV offices (parishes < 30K)

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS EG +\$1,204,920 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to the number of employees in the registrar of voters office in certain parishes

Proposed law provides that parishes with a population of less than 65,000 can have a maximum of three positions in the Registrar of Voters office. Under current law, parishes that have a population of less than 30,000 are only allowed to have two positions.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$1,204,920	\$1,278,420	\$1,356,404	\$1,439,144	\$1,526,932	\$6,805,820
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	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in an increase in SGF expenditures for the Department of State and Local Funds for Registrar of Voters (ROV) in parishes with a population of less than 30,000. Proposed law allows parishes with less than 30,000 to hire an additional ROV staff member. There are currently 30 parishes in the state that have a population of less than 30,000 that would be eligible to hire a new unclassified employee. The Secretary of State reports that this position will be a Confidential Assistant. Under current law, the Department of State is responsible for 50% of salaries and 100% of paid early voting overtime, the costs for related benefits vary by person. The salaries for Confidential Assistants are provided for in RS 18:59. The table below depicts the costs per person based on the entrance salary (Step 1 on the payscale) and the maximum exposure of related benefits of Confidential Assistants.

	Salary	Early Voting Overtime	Total Wages	Related Benefits	Total Cost Per Person
State Portion	\$14,391	\$7,679	\$22,070	\$18,095	\$40,164
Local Portion	\$14,391	\$0	\$14,391	\$3,099	\$17,489
Total	\$28,781	\$7,679	\$36,460	\$21,194	\$57,654

For 30 parishes, the state total costs would be \$1,204,920 (\$40,164 x 30), and the local costs are estimated to be \$524,670 (\$17,489 x 30). The department indicates that employees are eligible to receive up to two step increase raises per year, which is an approximately 6.1% increase every year. Below are the total costs by fiscal year.


	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29
State Portion	\$1,204,920	\$1,278,420	\$1,356,404	\$1,439,144	\$1,526,932
Local Portion	\$524,670	\$556,675	\$590,632	\$626,661	\$664,887
Total	\$1,729,590	\$1,835,095	\$1,947,036	\$2,065,805	\$2,191,819

The Department of State also reports that not all parishes have adequate office space to hire an additional position. To the extent they hire someone and require additional space, costs will increase accordingly. Also, the LFO assumes any necessary equipment and office supplies will be provided by the Registrar of Voters and not the state. **To the extent that any of the 30 Registrar of Voters authorized to hire an additional staff member under this measure chooses not to hire additional staff, costs will decrease accordingly.**

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer