



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 424** HLS 25RS 917  
Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
Opp. Chamb. Action:  
  
Proposed Amd.:  
Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 9, 2025	4:20 PM	<b>Author:</b> TAYLOR
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Department of State		
<b>Subject:</b> Additional Early Voting Sites		<b>Analyst:</b> Kimberly Fruge

VOTERS/VOTING OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2  
Provides relative to early voting

Proposed law allows a parish to provide additional early voting locations at a scale of at least one additional site per every 50,000 voters or 500 square miles of land mass; provides that for each additional early voting location, the Secretary of State shall reimburse the registrar for expenses related to local rentals, technology fees, and temporary staffing needs if the legislature appropriates funds to the Secretary of State for that purpose.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	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 may result in an increase in state and local expenditures to provide for additional early voting sites; however, these costs are nuanced and situational and will depend on how many new early voting locations are established. Proposed law allows a parish to provide for additional early voting sites at a scale of at least one additional site per \$50,000 voters or 500 square miles of landmass.


The total increase in costs is dependent on how many statewide elections occur within a year, how many new large sites are established, and how many new small sites are established. The cost to set up a large site would be \$28,700 for equipment, \$1,000 for network infrastructure, and \$13,638 for line drops, printers, laptops, and associated supplies. The cost to setup a small site would be \$15,450 for equipment, \$1,000 for network infrastructure, and \$6,525 for line drops, printers, laptops, and associated supplies. Each site would require a Registrar of Voters (ROVs) staff member which would cost approximately \$40,265 in salary and related benefits. In addition, each large site has an operating cost of \$11,200 while each small site has an operating cost of \$8,780. Lastly, large sites would require six (6) Early Voting Commissioners while small sites would require three (3) Early Voting Commissioners. The day rate for early voting commissioners is \$150. Each site may also have various additional costs to the locals related to location rental, technology fees, and additional temporary staff that are indeterminable at this time.

Based on the stipulations provided in proposed law, the Department of State indicates there are 42 new early voting sites (7 large sites and 35 small sites) that could be established. The table below presents the estimated cost based on these 30 locations with additional details provided on page 2. **Proposed law provides for the number of early voting locations that may be established. To the extent that not all 42 locations that are possible under this measure are established, costs will decrease accordingly.**

	<u>FY 26</u>	<u>FY 27</u>	<u>FY 28</u>	<u>FY 29</u>	<u>FY 30</u>
Operating Costs	\$385,700	\$385,700	\$385,700	\$385,700	\$385,700
Commissioners	\$617,400	\$617,400	\$661,500	\$746,550	\$617,400
ROVs Staff	\$1,691,130	\$1,691,130	\$1,691,130	\$1,691,130	\$1,691,130
Equipment	\$741,650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$203,350
Start-up Costs	\$365,841	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Additional Costs	<u>\$531,520</u>	<u>\$531,520</u>	<u>\$531,520</u>	<u>\$666,515</u>	<u>\$531,520</u>
Total	<b>\$4,333,241</b>	<b>\$3,225,750</b>	<b>\$3,269,850</b>	<b>\$3,489,895</b>	<b>\$3,429,100</b>

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	House	
<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}	
			 <b>Patrice Thomas</b> <b>Deputy Fiscal Officer</b>



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**CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:** Page 2 of 2

**CONTINUED EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION FROM PAGE ONE:**

Election expenses are typically paid by the Secretary of State (SOS), and the SOS is reimbursed by the locals for their portion of the election costs. Proposed law provides that for each additional early voting location implemented pursuant to this measure, the Secretary of State can reimburse the Registrar of Voter for expenses related to location rentals, technology fees, and temporary staffing needs if the legislature appropriates adequate funds to the Secretary of State. These costs are indeterminable at this time.

**Operating Costs:** The department estimates that large sites will have an operating cost of \$11,200 and small sites will have an operating cost of \$8,780. These costs include the data circuit line, cellular data, router maintenance, supplies, and advertising. Annual operating costs total \$385,700 (\$11,200\*7 + \$8,780\*35).

**Commissioners:** Each new site will require Early Voting Commissioners at a rate of \$150 per day. Large early voting sites will require six (6) Early Voting Commissioners while small early voting sites will require three (3) Early Voting Commissioners. For seven (7) days of work, this equates to \$6,300 (\$150 per day \* 6 commissioners \* 7 days) for large sites and \$3,150 (\$150 per day \* 3 commissioners \* 7 days) for small sites. The statewide costs would be \$154,350 (\$6,300 \* 7 large sites + \$3,150 \* 35 small sites) per election. For four elections a year, this would equate to \$617,400.

For the presidential preference primary election, each site is allowed an additional commissioner for a total increase of \$44,100. Therefore, the total cost in FY 28 is \$661,500.

For the presidential election, each site is allowed an additional commissioner and three extra days, a total increase of \$129,150. Therefore, the total cost in FY 29 is \$746,550.

**ROV Staff:** Each new early voting site will require one Register of Voters staff member. The department estimates this cost will be \$40,265 for salary and related benefits per election. For 42 sites, this would be a cost of \$1,691,130 (\$40,265 salary/rb \* 42 new sites).

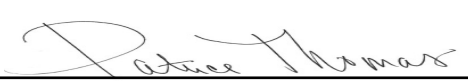
**Equipment:** The department estimates the costs of equipment will be approximately \$28,700 at new large sites and will be \$15,450 at small sites. The total cost in FY 26 is \$741,650 (\$28,700 \* 7 + \$15,450 \* 35). In FY 30, the department estimates a cost to replace equipment at \$203,350.

**Start Up Costs:** The department estimates additional start-up costs for network infrastructure, line drops, printers, laptops, and associated supplies at \$14,638 for large sites and \$7,525 for small sites. The total cost in FY 26 for start up equipment is \$365,841 (\$14,638 \* 7 + \$7,525 \* 35).

**Additional Costs:** The department also estimates the cost for security services, janitorial services, and drayage costs for parishes with three or more early voting sites. Security services are estimated at \$35 per hour for 9.5 hours per day. Janitorial services are estimated at \$200 per election. Lastly, 10 parishes will require drayage, at \$5,000 per election.

Senate  
☒ 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}

  
Patrice Thomas  
Deputy Fiscal Officer