LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB** **296** HLS 14RS 515

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 8, 2014	2:48 PM	**Author:** CONNICK
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State		
Subject: Recount in elections		**Analyst:** Stephanie C. Blanchard

ELECTIONS   EG SEE FISC NOTE GF EX See Note

Provides for a recount in proposition elections upon request of a person who voted in the proposition election when the number of absentee by mail and early voting ballots could make a difference in the outcome of the election

Present law provides relative to the tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots. Provides that if the number of absentee by mail and early voting ballots cast for all candidates for an office could make a difference in the outcome of the election for such office, the parish board of election supervisors shall recount the absentee by mail ballots. Present law requires that a written request by a candidate be filed with the clerk of court for a recount to be conducted. Provides deadlines for making the request. Provides that the candidate requesting the recount shall be responsible for all reasonable costs associated with such recount which shall be payable to the clerk of court. Proposed law retains present law. Applies proposed law to proposition elections in addition to candidate elections; provides that a person who voted in the proposition election may request the recount. Additionally provides that if the recount changes the outcome of an election, the costs paid by the candidate or voter in the proposition election shall be refunded by the clerk of court.

EXPENDITURES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	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

The proposed legislation may result in an increase in state and local costs for FY 15 and subsequent years. There are many variables in determining the increased costs and when they may occur since the number of elections that this legislation would apply to is indeterminable at this time. The number of ballots being counted also determines the increased costs.

Each Parish Board of Election Supervisors conducts absentee ballot counting with the assistance of parish board commissioners. These commissioners usually earn $50 per ballot counting session but may earn $100, if the number of ballots is expected to be high. If recounts are determined to be necessary due to this legislation, each Parish Board of Supervisors will probably call a special meeting. There are 5 board members and each would be paid $50 per diem for this meeting. Secretary of State Elections Operations staff will likely assist with the recount and may incur hotel and travel reimbursement, as well as overtime pay. In addition, there may be a cost for security personnel at the recount location.

The state would initially pay for the recount expenses but would be reimbursed partially or fully from the local government holding the election, depending upon the number of local items on the ballot. If the recount changes the outcome of an election, the costs paid by the candidate or voter requesting the proposition election shall be refunded by the clerk of court.

NOTE: The recount held for the Crescent City Connection Toll election cost the state $4,610.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House		
☐ 13.5.1 >= $100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}		☐ 6.8(F)(1) >= $100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	*Evan Brasseaux*	
☐ 13.5.2 >= $500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}		☐ 6.8(F)(2) >= $500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S}	**Evan Brasseaux**	
		☐ 6.8(G) >= $500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	**Staff Director**	