

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 230** HLS 16RS 415
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.: **REVISED**

Date: March 30, 2016 1:50 PM	Author: SMITH, P.
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State	Analyst: Zachary Rau
Subject: Extended Early Voting to Account for Holidays	

VOTERS/VOTING OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to early voting days interrupted by a holiday

Proposed law amends present law relative to the early voting period taking place 14 to 7 days before an election. Present law provides that early voting activities be suspended to observe holidays provided by law or those proclaimed by the governor during any early voting period. Proposed law requires Registrars of Voters offices to add one day to the week before the early voting period for one or more holidays that would occur during the early voting period. Proposed law provides that the additional early voting day be added to the week before the early voting period and take place on the first day that is not a Sunday or a holiday.

EXPENDITURES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	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

Proposed law will increase state general fund expenditures for the Secretary of State. This bill requires Registrars of Voters offices to open for early voting one day in the week before the early voting period in the event one or more holidays that take place 14 to 7 days before an election. This would represent an expansion of overtime hours for Registrars of Voters offices, as they currently must open Monday through Saturday, excluding all holidays, from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM under present law. Currently overtime for Registrars of Voters offices related to early voting runs from 4:30 PM until 6:00 PM on weekdays, and from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM on Saturdays.

The Secretary of State estimates an approximate increase of expenditures ranging from \$358,000 to \$561,000 annually depending upon the number and types of elections being held statewide. Included in the potential range by the Secretary of State is the anticipated need for a total of 4 additional T.O. positions for 2 election field technicians at an initial annual cost of \$138,240 (\$69,120 per position) and 2 IT technical support specialists with an initial annual cost of \$192,812 (\$96,406 per position). The Secretary of State assumes a 4% merit adjustment would be added in subsequent fiscal years. However, the maximum number of additional overtime days that Secretary of State staff would work based upon their estimate is 1 statewide day per year in FYs 17, 18, and 21. Therefore, the Legislative Fiscal Office believes that any additional work associated with this legislation will be incremental in nature, and that the Department can accomplish these tasks with existing or temporary personnel, which will result in additional overtime expenses, but should not require additional personnel.

Subtracting the Secretary of State's anticipated need for additional personnel and the associated costs, overtime expenses for registrars of voters range between \$0 and \$13,737 based upon the number of early voting days and types of elections statewide during FYs 17-21. The Secretary of State derives these costs from an estimated expenditure of \$87,000 per day associated with early voting activities for statewide elections. Furthermore, the Secretary of State anticipates half of precincts in LA will be active for early voting during a non-statewide election at a cost of \$43,500. This bill would add the extra day of early voting to a weekday before the early voting period. Registrars' offices must remain open from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM during the early voting period, a total of 9.5 hours. **(See Continued Expenditure Explanation on Pg. 2)**

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 type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}	<input 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}	

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Staff Director

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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

(Continued Expenditure Explanation from Pg. 1) By dividing the Secretary of State's estimated costs (\$87,000) to open registrars of voters offices for a statewide election by the number of hours during a full overtime day (9.5 hours), registrars of voters offices create a per-hour overtime expense of \$9,158. By dividing the Secretary of State's estimated costs (\$43,500) to open registrars of voters offices for a non-statewide election by the number of hours during a full overtime day (9.5 hours), registrars of voters offices create a per-hour overtime expense of \$4,579.

Assuming registrars of voters typically open from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, they will incur overtime expenses from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM, an increase of 1.5 overtime hours. The annual expenditure increase each year based upon the number of holidays, types of elections statewide, and increase in weekday overtime hours are outlined below.

FY 17 - 1 day (Thanksgiving Day, Acadian Day) during statewide election early voting period totaling \$13,737
(\$87,000 / 9.5 hours * 1.5 weekday overtime hours).

FY 18 - 1 day (Veterans Day) during statewide election early voting period totaling \$13,737
(\$87,000 / 9.5 hours * 1.5 weekday overtime hours).

FY 19 - No holidays during early voting period.

FY 20 - 1 day (Mardi Gras Day) during non-statewide election early voting period totaling \$6,869
(\$43,500 / 9.5 hours * 1.5 weekday overtime hours)

FY 21 - 1 day (Thanksgiving Day, Acadian Day) during statewide election early voting period totaling \$13,737
(\$87,000 / 9.5 hours * 1.5 weekday overtime hours).

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}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

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