

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 333** SLS 16RS 240
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 6, 2016 7:41 AM	Author: COLOMB
Dept./Agy.: Legislature	Analyst: Willie Marie Scott
Subject: Public Meetings	

PUBLIC MEETINGS: OR INCREASE SG EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Allows video conferencing of committee meetings and sessions of the legislature and authorizes in absentia. (gov sig)

Present law provides each house of the legislature may adopt rules of procedure to provide for and accommodate committee meetings during the interim by video conference. The proposed legislation retains the present law and provides for video conferencing of committee meetings and chamber sessions pursuant to rules adopted by the respective house, individually or jointly. It also provides for each house of the legislature to adopt rules of procedures to provide for the creation and application of a personalized Vote-ID Card which may be used to vote electronically. It further provides that when a member of either house can not attend a committee meeting or Chamber session as a member due to illness or injury, that member may cast a record vote in absentia, with a personalized Vote-ID Card electronically via the internet.

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

The proposed legislation will result in an indeterminable but potentially significant increase in SGF expenditures. The impact on expenditures will depend upon rules adopted individually or jointly by the Senate and House and the technology utilized by both in the Capitol Building and other remote sites around the state. The legislation provides for video conferencing of committee meetings and chamber sessions, and the creation and application of a personalized Vote-ID Card which may be used to vote electronically. According to the Public Systems Associates (Legislative Computer Center) and Senate Communications Office, the Senate and House do not have an infrastructure in place to support reliable, multi-point, and full-scale video conferencing; and committee rooms have no capability regarding electronic voting by members. Additionally, it is not clear if legislator's laptops or remote sites with video conference capability will be utilized for video conferencing and electronic voting.

Factors affecting cost of video conferencing include the number and length of concurrent meetings; how often utilized; number of remote locations and whether they are predefined, configured and shared, or whether these remote locations can be anywhere; video quality; degree of device independency; level of security, IT support and ADA compliance and captioning.

Factors affecting cost of voting in absentia include the number of remote voters; degree of device independency; length of time during which voting will be open; level of acceptable delay; materials, level of security, and embedded technology requirements within the Vote-ID Card; and level of security requirements within the networking and authentication infrastructure. For electronic committee voting, the current system would need to be redesigned. The cost to redesign the current system would also vary greatly depending upon specific design requirements.

Note: There will be some cost savings in the future as travel expenses are reduced as a result of the ability of legislators to participate in meetings through video conferencing. The impact on expenditures will depend on the number of members that may cast a record vote in absentia due to illness or injury.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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|---|--|--------------|
| <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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