

State Board of Elections

2001 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB656

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☒ Substitute ☒ Engrossed
Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron Rhodes

3. Committee Privileges and Elections

4. Title Campaign Finance Disclosure Act; penalties.

5. Summary/Purpose:

Campaign Finance Disclosure Act; penalties. Provides for a civil penalty of up to \$500 for the failure to file a campaign report due during the four months before through the 35 days after the November election, and a fine of \$500 for a second failure to file within the same election cycle. Present law imposes a penalty of up to \$300 for either late or incomplete filings. The bill requires the Secretary of the State Board of Elections to assess the penalty for missing the filing deadline and to give public notice on the Internet of the penalty and violator within five days of the missed deadline. The bill does not change the \$300 fine now applicable to timely but incomplete filings before and after the November election. The bill also amends the special provision that imposes a penalty for each day that a statewide office campaign is in violation, increasing the daily fine from \$100 to \$300.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: preliminary

6a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2000-01			
2001-02	\$87,000.00	2 FTE	GF
2002-03	\$87,000.00	2 FTE	GF

6b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2000-01			
2001-02			
2002-03			

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, Item 88.

8. Fiscal implications: Implementing the provisions of the bill requiring the State Board of Elections to post the names of violators on the internet within five days of the missed deadline will require approximately \$87,000/yr. This consists of two FTEs (at \$30,000/yr plus benefits), and \$5,000 non personal costs per FTE to perform the additional duties required by this bill.

The impact on local electoral boards and registrars cannot be estimated.

While the increase in the amounts of the fines may result in additional revenue, the higher fines are expected to have a deterrent effect, resulting in fewer violations and fewer fines levied. Therefore, the expected revenue impact is minimal.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: State Board of Elections, local Electoral Boards, local General Registrars, Commonwealth's Attorneys.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments:

Date: 01/28/01/ RLB

Document: HB 656 H1

cc: Secretary of Administration
Secretary of Public Safety