

Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB562

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron Amundson

3. Committee Privileges and Elections

4. Title Elections; absentee voting.

5. Summary/Purpose:

Provides that qualified voters may vote absentee for any reason. The bill eliminates the present statutory list of specific reasons entitling a voter to cast an absentee ballot. Several special provisions concerning military and overseas absentee voters and disabled voters are consolidated in one new provision.

6. No Fiscal Impact on the State Board of Elections (SBE).

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications: Little to no fiscal impact directly on the State Board of Elections, however the State Board of Elections indicates that this bill could have a significant impact local registrars and electoral boards since it could increase the number if individuals voting absentee. The increased administrative costs, due to the local registrars having to manually process each ballot, would have to be borne by the locality. Localities are responsible for most of the costs of elections.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: State Board of Elections, local electoral boards and registrars

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: HB334 is similar.

Date: 1/16/06 mtb

Document: G:\2006session\Fis\Hb562.Doc Mike Barton

cc: Secretary of Administration