

## Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** HB756

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron** McEachin

**3. Committee** Privileges & Elections

**4. Title** Elections; recount procedures.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** Requires hard copy optical scan ballots to be rerun through appropriately programmed tabulators in recount proceedings. Present law provides that the tabulator printout will be sufficient unless it is unclear or the court orders the ballots to be rerun.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: the responsibility of either the candidate or the impacted locality

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No

**8. Fiscal implications:** The bill would require re-scanning of all optical scan and marksense ballots when conducting a recount. Each recount would require the acquisition (purchase or rent) of additional memory cards/packs, (the cards/packs used in the election are sealed) a minimum of at least one per precinct and central absentee precinct, and the cost of having the memory cards/packs programmed, tested, and prepared for the voting machines, and the cost of paying the additional teams of officers.

The costs are the responsibility of the candidate if the difference between the candidate apparently nominated or elected and the candidate petitioning for the recount is more than one-half of one percent but not more than one percent of the vote cast for the two such candidates. The recount cost is the responsibility of the losing candidate, when the difference is not more than one percent and the candidate petitions for a recount. If the difference is less than one-half of one percent, the cost is the responsibility of the locality.

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

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No

**11. Other comments:** No

**Date:** 1/17/06 mtb

**Document:** G:\2006session\Fis\Hb756.Doc Mike Barton

cc: Secretary of Administration