

Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB272

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron Whipple

3. Committee Privileges and Elections

4. Title Elections; a pilot program to test electronic voting equipment and paper record requirements; audits

5. Summary/Purpose: Requires the State Board of Elections to design a pilot program to test electronic voting equipment and paper record requirements and incorporate audits of voting equipment. This is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee Studying Voting Equipment established pursuant to House Joint Resolution 174 (2004) and Senate Joint Resolution 371 (2005).

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are one-time and preliminary.

6a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2006-07	\$750,000	2.00	General fund

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, Item 85.

8. Fiscal implications: The State Board of Elections (SBE) has estimated the following would be necessary to implement the proposed pilot program. Two additional full-time positions for a period of about two years needed to design and implement the pilot. SBE estimates the additional personnel, programming, and supplies for the pilot to be \$400,000. Additional local staff would be necessary to train and operate the needed equipment and for voter education.

Equipment estimates to implement the pilot include the following assumptions, currently certified equipment for ten precincts with a minimum of three voting units per precinct. In addition, provisions would be necessary for test the current seven types of Direct Recorded Electronic (DRE) voting equipment and \$1,200 per printer device. The total cost for equipment is estimated at \$250,000.

In addition, there are vendors of voter-verifiable paper records that work with existing voting equipment that are also required in the pilot. Again assume ten precincts, with three voting units per precinct using three vendors and again \$1,200 per printer device. This would cost an estimated additional \$100,000 for equipment, bringing the total for equipment to approximately \$350,000.

The total impact on the general fund would be approximately \$750,000 to implement the pilot as proposed.

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

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: HB1243 is similar legislation

Date: 1/31/06 mtb

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cc: Secretary of Administration