

## Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB2642

House of Origin      X   Introduced               Substitute               Engrossed  
Second House              In Committee           Substitute              Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Orrock

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections; Elections Subcommittee

**4. Title:**            **Elections; voter registration procedures and revisions; duties of the State Board of Elections with**

**5. Summary:** Provides various revisions in voter registration procedures: (i) requires proof of citizenship with registration applications effective January 1, 2010; (ii) provides that third-party voter registration organizations must register with the State Board, which shall maintain a list of all registered voter registration drives and post this list on its website, that such organizations must provide quarterly reports to the State Board of all voter registration drives they conducted during that quarter, and that fines may be assessed against such organizations for failing to return voter registration applications or failing to return such applications in a timely manner; (iii) makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to pay or receive compensation on a fee per signature or on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained for circulating election-related petitions or completing and submitting voter registration applications; (iv) directs (with an emergency clause) the State Board to conduct a pilot program with at least three other states by July 1, 2009, to determine the number of duplicate registrations and to report in July 2009 to the Committees on Privileges and Elections on the number of duplicate registrations discovered and the steps taken by the Board to eliminate duplicate registrations; and (v) provides, contingent on the appropriation of sufficient funds, that by October 1, 2009, the State Board shall conduct a match of the registered voter lists with the deceased persons lists of the Social Security Administration and mail a notice to all registered voters to obtain Postal Service returns of undeliverable mail.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:**

**6a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2009	\$0	
2010	\$513,750	General
2011	\$0	
2012	\$0	
2013	\$0	
2014	\$0	
2015	\$0	

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 89.

- 8. Fiscal Implications:** The State Board of Elections indicates that changes to the statewide voter registration system, requiring staff time to adjust software, will result in increased cost.

Update statewide voting system to compare data with Social Security Administration to accept phone and email information from voters.

\$125,000

Mail notices to voters (5% of voters anticipated to be “inactive”)

\$78,750

Printing

\$75,000

**TOTAL**

**\$278,750**

Establish pilot program with three other states to exchange voter lists.

\$150,000

Application and process development for agency to maintain third party voter registration lists.

\$15,000

Print and distribute voter registration application and instructions to third party voter registration organizations.

\$20,000

Registration system change to record and maintain records for proof of citizenship.

\$25,000

Develop enforcement process for failure to mail or deliver voter registration application.

\$25,000

**TOTAL Fiscal Impact**

**\$513,750**

Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates in jail could result from this proposal. Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth pays the localities \$8.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails’ operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state’s share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board’s most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2008), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$28.77 per inmate, per day in FY 2007.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** State Board of Elections, Local electoral boards, local law enforcement

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None

**Date:** 1/30/2009 dpb

**Document:** G:\2009 Session\FIS 2009\HB2642.Doc

cc: Secretary of Administration