Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

Bill Number: HB9H1
House of Origin
Second House
Patron: Cole
Committee: Privileges and Elections
Title: Voting procedures; voter identification requirements, provisional ballots.
Summary: Provides that a voter who is unable to present one of the enumerated forms of identification may sign a sworn statement that he is the named registered voter he claims to be and then be allowed to vote a provisional ballot. Present law allows such a voter to vote an official rather than provisional ballot after signing such statement.
Budget Amendment Necessary: No.
Fiscal Impact Estimates: None
Fiscal Implications: This bill will require the redesign of the provisional ballot envelope to apply to voters who do not provide identification. Although the number of impacted voters is expected to be low, additional provisional envelopes may be needed to supply to the local election officials prior to an election. Election officials will need to be trained on the acceptable uses of the provisional envelope. Some voter outreach, including an organized informational campaign, may need to be developed by SBE in order to inform voters of this change in law.
Considering the fact that voters would not be required to provide identification in order for their vote to count, SBE should absorb the costs of implementing this legislation, especially considering that Help America Vote Act dollars would be available to supplement the redesign of the provisional ballot envelope.
Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: SBE and local government
. Technical Amendment Necessary: No
. Other Comments: N/A

Date: 1/30/2012