

**Department of Planning and Budget
2012 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Bill Number: SB207

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

2. Patron: Barker

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Elections; emergencies; extension of polling hours.

5. Summary: Provides for a court-ordered extension of polling hours in emergency situations and situations that interfere with the ability of voters to travel to the polls. The bill provides that no extension shall exceed three hours, provides for notice by any petitioner for an extension to the other potential petitioners, and includes other restrictions on the court's discretion and the premature release of election results. The potential petitioners are the Secretary of the State Board of Elections and the state chairs of the political parties.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate

8. Fiscal Implications: State of Board of Elections (SBE) states that this bill could have some fiscal impact on SBE related to the staff time (and overtime) associated with the extension of the polling hours as staff would need to be available to assist voters and registrars until the polls closed and election results were reported. Local election officials will incur costs associated with additional hours for officers of election and office staff. Likewise, there may be some costs to the court system.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: SBE, court system, and local election officials

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: N/A

Date: 1/26/2012