

## Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB613ER

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Edwards

**3. Committee:** Passed both Houses

**4. Title:** Candidate petitions for primaries and general elections.

**5. Summary:** Provides that candidate petitions in primaries and general elections must be witnessed by a legal resident of the Commonwealth who attests that he is not a minor or a felon whose voting rights have not been restored. Current law requires that the petition witness must be eligible to vote for the office for which the petition is being circulated. The bill also provides that presidential candidates are eligible to witness their own petitions. The bill contains an emergency clause. The bill is identical to HB 1133.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** See Item 8

**8. Fiscal Implications:** While SBE will need to redesign its candidate petition forms to reflect this change in law, the agency indicates that it should be able to absorb the costs associated with implementing the legislation. This may also result in fewer lawsuits against SBE and localities due to the uncertainty regarding the constitutionality of the current residency requirement contained in the Code, so this could reduce some legal fees.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** SBE, local governments

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** N/A

**Date:** 3/9/2012