

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB679

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|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| House of Origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Introduced | <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute | <input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed |
| Second House | <input type="checkbox"/> In Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled |

2. Patron: Cole, M.L.

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Elections; voting equipment.

5. Summary: Makes technical amendments to reflect updates in voting equipment technology. The bill also authorizes the State Board to conduct audits of ballot scanner machines; currently, these audits are conducted as part of a pilot program. Two outdated sections regarding mechanical voting devices and ballots generally are repealed. The bill contains an emergency clause.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No state fiscal impact. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: None. According to the State Board of Elections, this bill will have no fiscal impact on the agency. The agency will be responsible for informing the elections community of the amendments made in the bill; however, it will be able to do so during existing annual community events. The agency currently conducts audits of ballot scanner machines in a pilot program and states that expanding its authority to conduct audits will have minimal impact on the agency. The State Board of Elections will be able to absorb any costs or increases in workload that may result from the bill with its existing resources and personnel.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State Board of Elections; localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: As enrolled, this bill is identical to SB456, as engrossed.

Date: 2/25/2014

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