

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB140

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed  
**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Barker

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

4. **Title:** Elections; absentee voting by persons 65 years of age or older.

5. **Summary:** Adds to the list of persons entitled to vote by absentee ballot those persons who are 65 years of age or older on or before the day of the election for which an absentee ballot is sought. The bill requires the application for absentee ballot from such persons to include proof of age in a form specified by the State Board of Elections.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes. Item 83 – Electoral Services.

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

**Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2014	\$0	0.00	-
2015	\$10,700	0.00	GF
2016	\$0	0.00	-
2017	\$0	0.00	-
2018	\$0	0.00	-
2019	\$0	0.00	-
2020	\$0	0.00	-

8. **Fiscal Implications:** According to the State Board of Elections (SBE), the proposed legislation is expected to increase the number of voters eligible to vote absentee. The cost to the SBE includes a change to the voter registration system (\$2,500), changes to forms, web materials, guidance documents (\$2,200), and for printing and distribution of new forms (\$6,000).

The total cost of processing the absentee ballots at the local registrar's office would increase. Currently, the cost to send an absentee ballot is \$1.75 for mailed ballots plus the staff time needed to review ballot requests. In addition, staff time would increase for processing in-person absentee voting.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** State Board of Elections and general registrar offices

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** Legislation is identical to HB37.

**Date:** 1/14/2014

**Document:** H:\General Government\GENERAL ASSEMBLY\2014 Session\SBE\Introduced\SB140\SB140.doc