

## Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB309

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

**2. Patron:**        Crockett-Stark

**3. Committee:** Privileges and Elections

**4. Title:**        Elections; absentee voting.

**5. Summary:** Provides that persons age 65 and older on the day of an election are entitled to vote absentee if an absentee ballot is requested.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 87, HB 30

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary

**Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2012	0	0	
2013	\$86,000	0	General
2014	\$6,000	0	General
2015	\$6,000	0	General
2016	\$6,000	0	General
2017	\$6,000	0	General
2018	\$6,000	0	General

**8. Fiscal Implications:** State Board of Election (SBE) states that this bill will have a fiscal impact on SBE as it would increase the number of voters eligible to vote absentee. The cost to SBE includes a large one-time change to, VERIS, the statewide voter registration system (\$80,000) and the printing of additional forms and instructions each year (\$6,000). In addition, the cost of processing the 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 of local general registrar offices would increase for processing in-person absentee voting.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** SBE and local general registrar offices.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

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

**Date:** 1/26/2012