

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1340

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

2. Patron: Ware, R.L.

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Electoral boards and general registrars; reimbursement of costs of compensation and expenses.

5. Summary: Provides for reimbursement by the state to the localities of the entire costs of compensation and expenses of the electoral boards and general registrars.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 88

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2013	\$2,631,466	0	GF
2014	\$2,631,466	0	GF
2015	\$2,631,466	0	GF
2016	\$2,631,466	0	GF
2017	\$2,631,466	0	GF
2018	\$2,631,466	0	GF
2019	\$2,631,466	0	GF

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation would require the full state funding of the following:

1. 133 General Registrar Salaries
2. Approximately 400 Electoral Board member salaries
3. Expenses and mileage for Electoral Board Members.
4. Expenses and mileage for General Registrars.

The State Board of Elections (SBE) indicates the following:

Currently, the state funds the majority of the costs associated with general registrars and electoral board salaries and provides no funding for expenses and mileage for general registrars or electoral board members.

Currently, the state funds approximately \$4,583,582 of the total \$6,518,518 (70.32 percent) of the required general registrar salary as set in the Appropriation Act. Localities are required to make up the difference of approximately \$1,934,936.

Currently, the state funds approximately \$858,054 out of the total \$1,054,584 (81.36 percent) of the required electoral board member salary as set in the Appropriation Act. Localities are required to make up the difference of approximately \$196,530.

A full reimbursement to the localities for general registrar and electoral board member salaries would be approximately \$2,131,466.

Expenses for mileage for general registrars and electoral board members are difficult to calculate. Until 2010, SBE reimbursed localities for a percentage of electoral board member mileage expenses. While not all localities requested such reimbursement, the total request from those localities that did was approximately \$90,000. Given the slight inflation in the reimbursement rate for mileage since 2010, SBE would estimate mileage expenses for all electoral board members to be approximately \$100,000.

SBE is not aware of any past practice for the state reimbursing general registrar mileage. However, due to the general registrar being a full-time position in most localities, SBE estimates the travel associated with the general registrar would equal that of the three electoral board members in each locality and estimates a \$100,000 for general registrar mileage.

It is unclear what items would fall under electoral board and general registrar “expenses.” Apart from mileage, SBE is not aware that the state has ever reimbursed electoral board members or general registrars for per diem charges for travel or other similar expenses. These costs could be significant, estimated to be somewhere in the minimum range of \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Currently, SBE is not responsible for addressing retirement issues or fringe benefits for general registrars and electoral board members and is not appropriated funds to provide reimbursement for those expenses. Accordingly, those potential expenses are not included in this impact statement.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: n/a

11. Other Comments: none

Date: 1/9/13

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