

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1710

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

2. **Patron:** Plum

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

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

5. **Summary:** Provides that the parent or legal custodian of a child four years of age or younger and who is caring for such child in the home shall be entitled to vote absentee.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes. Item 87

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate

7a. Expenditure Impact:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | <i>Dollars</i> | <i>Positions</i> | <i>Fund</i> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|
| 2013 | 10,000 | 0 | GF |

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The State Board of Elections (SBE) indicates that this legislation will have a fiscal impact on SBE because it would increase the number of voters eligible to vote absentee. The cost to SBE entails a one-time change to the voter registration system costing approximately \$10,000.

In addition, the cost of processing the ballots at the local registrar's office could increase. Currently, the cost to send an absentee ballot is \$1.75 per mailed ballots plus the staff time required 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, local registrar's offices

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** n/a

11. **Other Comments:** none

Date: 1/15/13

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