

## Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB873

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

**2. Patron:**        McWaters

**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 for which an absentee ballot is requested are 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	16,000	0	GF
2014	6,000	0	GF
2015	6,000	0	GF
2016	6,000	0	GF
2017	6,000	0	GF
2018	6,000	0	GF
2019	6,000	0	GF

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The State Board of Elections (SBE) indicates that this legislation would increase the number of voters eligible to vote absentee, resulting in a fiscal impact to the agency. It is estimated that the cost to SBE include a one-time change to the voter registration system (\$10,000) and printing additional forms (\$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. Also, staff time requirements would increase due to processing in-person absentee voting. The impact to the local registrar's office is indeterminate.

**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:** 1/11/13

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