

Department of Planning and Budget

2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB953

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Brink

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Office of the Attorney General; mandatory employment of special counsel for the State Board of Elections

5. Summary: Office of the Attorney General; mandatory employment of special counsel for the State Board of Elections under certain circumstances. Provides that whenever the Attorney General is entitled to have his name printed on the ballot in a general or special election, he shall recuse himself from providing legal services to the State Board of Elections and employ special counsel to provide such services. The bill requires the compensation for the special counsel to be paid out of the appropriation for the Attorney General's office.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. See Item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications. This bill is likely to have fiscal implications on the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) as the OAG pays for special counsel. Attorneys who handle cases for the State Board of Elections generally receive \$400-\$500 per hour. The cost of a case could vary depending upon the severity of the issue at hand. Prior cases have been upwards of \$500,000 however the fiscal impact cannot be determined at this time given the nature of the legal work needed.

The provisions of this bill are not expected to create a cost to the State Board of Elections.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Office of the Attorney General and Department of Law; State Board of Elections.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.