

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB16

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Miller

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

4. **Title:** Absentee voting; persons age 65 or older on day of an election are entitled to vote absentee ballot.

5. **Summary:** Provides that persons age 65 or 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 83 – Electoral Services.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item 8.

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2014	\$0	0.00	-
2015	\$10,700	0.00	GF
2016	\$0	0.00	-
2017	\$0	0.00	-
2018	\$0	0.00	-
2019	\$0	0.00	-
2020	\$0	0.00	-

8. **Fiscal Implications:** According to the State Board of Elections (SBE), the proposed legislation is expected to increase the number of voters eligible to vote absentee. The cost to the SBE includes a change to the voter registration system (\$2,500), changes to forms, web materials, guidance documents (\$2,200), and for printing and distribution of new forms (\$6,000).

The total cost of processing the absentee 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 would increase for processing in-person absentee voting.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** State Board of Elections and general registrar offices

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: Legislation is identical to SB129.

Date: 1/14/2014

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