

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB205

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

2. **Patron:** Petersen

3. **Committee:** Privileges and Elections

4. **Title:** Campaign contribution limits; civil penalty.

5. **Summary:** Prohibits persons from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$10,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, or the General Assembly in any one election cycle. Of the \$10,000 single contribution or any combination of contributions, no more than \$5,000 may be contributed prior to the primary election or other nominating event for the office the candidate is seeking, unless designated by the contributor as a contribution for the general election. No limits are placed on contributions made by political party committees, the candidate, or the candidate's family to the candidate's campaign. Civil penalties for violations of the limits may equal up to two times the excess contribution amounts.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** As stand-alone legislation, the Department of Elections considers implementation of this bill as “routine,” and does not require additional funding. However, the agency will review all electoral legislation likely to be enacted prior to the passage by each house. If the aggregate number of “routine” bills likely to pass either house is unusually large, it is possible the agency will require additional resources. If so, the Department of Elections will identify the costs at that time.

According to the Department of Elections, an average one-time expense of \$9,375 is estimated for contractor costs to implement redesign changes in its COMmittee Electronic Tracking (COMET) system associated with changes in campaign finance and reporting requirements. This is based on an estimated average of 100 hours of programming, which is expected to be fulfilled by a combination of contractors and in-house agency employees.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** The Department of Elections and local general registrars.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

Date: 1/14/2020