

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1229-01
Bill No.: HB 644
Subject: Elections
Type: Original
Date: February 7, 2017

Bill Summary: This proposal allows any registered voter who is eligible to vote in a particular election to do so by absentee ballot without being required to state a reason.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Election Commission** state with anyone being able to vote by absentee ballot, it would increase the volume of that type of vote substantially. For a county-wide election, this would likely increase costs by approximately \$32,000 per election.

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Elections** estimate this proposal would initially double the number of absentee voters. This would increase election costs by approximately \$1,500 in a low turnout election like an April General Municipal or by as much as \$13,000 for the most recent presidential election for absentee envelopes and postage.

Also, more election judges and/or seasonal staff to hand the increased volume would be required. For lower turnout elections the cost is estimated at \$200 for two additional election judges for a day. For a larger election, the costs would be approximately \$3,000.

Officials at the **Kansas City Election Board** assume the fiscal impact of this proposal will be approximately \$25,000 per election. Additional temporary staff, postage and printing would be needed to process the extra absentee ballot demand.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State** and **Buchanan County** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

Oversight assumes the number of additional individuals that qualify under this proposal is unknown at this time; therefore, Oversight assumes the local election authorities would request additional resources if the number of additional individuals requesting an absentee ballot increases.

Officials at the following boards of election commission: St. Louis City Board of Election Commission, Clay County Board of Election Commission and Jackson County Board of Election Commission did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

Officials at the following counties: Andrew, Atchison, Boone, Camden, Carroll, Christian, Clay, Cole, Cooper, Daviess, Franklin, Knox, Marion, Miller, Montgomery, New Madrid, Phelps, Platte, and Wayne did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2018 (10 Mo.)	FY 2019	FY 2020
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2018 (10 Mo.)	FY 2019	FY 2020
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

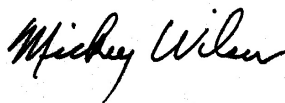
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill repeals the requirement that a registered voter applying for an absentee ballot state his or her reason for voting an absentee ballot but requires the application to state whether the voter is incapacitated or confined due to illness or physical disability or is a person who is primarily responsible for the physical care of an incapacitated or confined person.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the Secretary of State
Platte County Board of Elections
St. Louis County Board of Election Commission
Kansas City Election Board
Buchanan County



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director

Ross Strope
Assistant Director

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