

Measure: Initiative 66 - MAIL BALLOT VERIFICATION

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Fiscal Summary of Initiative 66

This fiscal summary, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council, contains a preliminary assessment of the measure's fiscal impact. A full fiscal impact statement for this initiative is or will be available at leg.colorado.gov/bluebook. This fiscal summary identifies the following impact.

State Expenditures and Revenue

The measure is estimated to increase state expenditures in the Department of State (DOS) to implement changes to the election systems. Specifically, the DOS must update voter registration systems so that county clerks may access the associated ID numbers, update election rules, and conduct public awareness campaigns to inform voters about the changes to voting in Colorado. Finally, DOS will reimburse local governments for 45 percent of their increased election costs. If costs are paid from the Department of State Cash Fund, state revenue from business filing fees paid to the DOS may need to be increased. The actual amount of new revenue and fee charges will be set administratively by DOS.

Local Government

County clerks and other local election officials will have increased workload and costs to update their voting rules and procedures. Once a procedure is developed they will have programing, staff, and communication costs to verify information provided on mail ballot return envelopes, flag discrepancies, and communicate with voters about the correction process. Additionally, mailing and material costs may increase to provide an additional outer envelope or other method to protect personally identifying information that the measure requires to be written by voters on the outside of their mail-in-ballot envelope. A portion of these increased county costs will be reimbursed by the state.

Economic Impacts

The measure has no direct impact on the state economy.