



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

HB16-1111

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 16-0442

Date: June 15, 2016

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Coram
. (None)

Bill Status: Postponed Indefinitely

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BILL TOPIC: SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION WITH PHOTO ID

| Fiscal Impact Summary | FY 2016-2017 | FY 2017-2018 |
|---|---|--------------|
| State Revenue | | |
| State Expenditures Cash Funds | <u>up to \$28,355</u> up to \$28,355 | |
| Appropriation Required: None. | | |
| Future Year Impacts: None. | | |

Note: This bill was not enacted into law; therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

Summary of Legislation

This bill refers a measure to Colorado voters changing state law concerning voter registration on or immediately prior to election day. Under current law, eligible electors may register to vote at any time prior to voting, including on election day. If this bill is approved by voters in the 2016 general election, anyone who registers to vote on election day or within the 22 days prior to an election must, in addition to meeting existing requirements, provide one of several types of valid photo identification, including:

- a Colorado driver's license;
- an identification card issued by the Department of Revenue;
- a U.S. passport;
- a government employee identification card;
- a pilot's license;
- a U.S. military identification card;
- a student identification card issued by a Colorado institution of higher education;
- a veteran health identification card issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; or
- a federally recognized tribal identification card.

Background

Current election laws allow eligible electors to register to vote at any time prior to voting, including on election day. To be eligible to register, an elector must have resided in Colorado for at least 22 days.

State Expenditures

This bill increases costs by referring a statewide ballot measure to voters. These election-related expenditures are paid from existing appropriations. In addition, if the bill is approved by the voters, the Department of State will have one-time costs to reprint voter registration materials. These cost increases are described below.

Election expenditure impact (existing appropriations). The bill includes a referred measure that will appear before voters at the November 2016 general election. Although no additional appropriation is required in this bill to cover election costs associated with this ballot measure, certain election costs to the state are appropriated as part of the regular budget process. First, state law requires that the state reimburse counties for costs incurred conducting a ballot measure election, paid from the Department of State Cash Fund. Second, the text and title of the measure must be published in one legal newspaper per county and an analysis of the measure must be included in the Ballot Information Booklet (Blue Book) mailed to all registered voter households prior to the election paid from the Ballot Analysis Revolving Fund. As of this writing, there will be at least one citizen-initiated measure on the ballot at the 2016 election, which will trigger the ballot costs shown in Table 1 below for a single ballot measure. Costs in 2016 will increase by approximately \$100,000 per measure beyond this base amount for any additional referred or initiated measures placed on the ballot.

Table 1. Projected Costs of a Single Statewide Ballot Measure Election in 2016

| Cost Component | Amount |
|--|--------------------|
| County Reimbursement for Statewide Ballot Measures | \$2,400,000 |
| Ballot Information Booklet (Blue Book) & Newspaper Publication | \$670,000 |
| TOTAL | \$3,070,000 |

Department of State — conditional fiscal impact. If approved by the voters, this bill increase expenditures in the Department of State by \$28,355 in FY 2016-17. Because the bill changes the requirements for voter registration, the Department of State will need to update and reprint all voter registration forms to reflect the updated list of acceptable forms of identification specified by the bill. No appropriation is required. If incurred, these costs will be addressed through the annual budget process.

Local Government Impact

This bill is expected to have a minimum expenditure and workload impact on counties. If the referendum is approved by the voters, county clerks will need to communicate the changes in acceptable forms of identification to voters. Additionally, county clerks may experience an increase in the number of provisional ballots requested by voters. Provisional ballots require more work to verify the identity of voters and cost more per ballot. Any increase in provisional ballots is anticipated to be minimal.

Effective Date

This bill was postponed indefinitely by the House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee on March 2, 2016.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties County Clerks Information Technology Secretary of State

Research Note Available

An LCS Research Note for HB16-1111 is available online and through the iLegislate app. Research notes provide additional policy and background information about the bill and summarize action taken by the General Assembly concerning the bill.