

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 583** HLS 16RS 1020
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 23, 2016 8:30 AM	Author: BROADWATER
Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State	Analyst: Zachary Rau
Subject: Withdrawal of Candidates	

ELECTIONS/CANDIDATES OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to withdrawal of candidates

Present law limits the time period during which a candidate may withdraw from an election, providing that the candidate must file notice of intent to withdraw prior to 4:30 p.m. on the seventh day after the close of the qualifying period to withdraw from a primary, and prior to 4:30 p.m. on the ninth day after the date of the primary election to withdraw from a general election. Proposed law repeals present law and provides relative to presidential elections that a notice of withdrawal shall not be returned to the person withdrawing.

EXPENDITURES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will increase expenditures for the Secretary of State by an indeterminable amount. The department will alter its voter registration system, the GeauxVote App sample ballot, and all other websites containing sample ballots to include the capability to display if a candidate has withdrawn from the election. The Secretary of States reports the purpose of these updates is to eliminate voter confusion on election day. The department estimates costs associated with these updates to total \$51,000. The Legislative Fiscal Office assumes this project undertaken by GCR Inc. at a rate of \$100 an hour for a period of 510 man-hours. However, in the event the work can be completed in fewer than 510 man-hours, actual associated expenditures may be below estimates. To the extent the proposed legislation exceeds the amount of hours built into the Secretary of State's FY 17 base budget for the contract with GCR Inc., the department may require additional SGF resources to complete this project.

In addition, the Secretary of State will update election night reporting software to prevent showing any votes for withdrawn candidates at an estimated cost of \$50,000. In discussions with Secretary of State staff, the Legislative Fiscal Office learned that the Secretary of State does not have a standing contract with their election machine vendor, who also handles election night reporting software programming, for this service, and it would represent a new cost for the department. The purpose of the election night reporting software update is to prevent votes for withdrawn candidates to be reported.

The Secretary of State estimates total expenditures needed to enact the proposed law to be \$101,000. However, to the extent that IT programming costs related to updating the voter registration system, GeauxVote App sample ballot, and all other websites containing sample ballots can be absorbed in the Secretary of State's existing contract with GCR Inc. and does not require additional SGF resources, the total cost of the project may be less than the \$101,000 estimate. However, to the extent numerous pieces of legislation are enacted that require GCR Inc.'s services, the Secretary of State may require additional resources.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} | |

Evan Brasseaux
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