

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 5182 SB	Title: Advisory votes
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Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Agency Name	2021-23		2023-25		2025-27	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts						
Loc School dist-SPI						
Local Gov. Other	Fiscal note not available					
Local Gov. Total						

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2021-23				2023-25				2025-27			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Office of the Secretary of State	.0	(770,000)	(770,000)	(770,000)	.0	(1,036,000)	(1,036,000)	(1,036,000)	.0	(770,000)	(770,000)	(770,000)
Office of Attorney General	Fiscal note not available											
Office of Financial Management	Fiscal note not available											
Total \$	0.0	(770,000)	(770,000)	(770,000)	0.0	(1,036,000)	(1,036,000)	(1,036,000)	0.0	(770,000)	(770,000)	(770,000)

Agency Name	2021-23			2023-25			2025-27		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Fiscal note not available								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2021-23			2023-25			2025-27		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Office of the Secretary of State	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Office of Attorney General	Fiscal note not available								
Office of Financial Management	Fiscal note not available								
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Agency Name	2021-23			2023-25			2025-27		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Fiscal note not available								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

NONE

Prepared by: Gwen Stamey, OFM	Phone: (360) 902-9810	Date Published: Preliminary 1/20/2021
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Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5182 SB	Title: Advisory votes	Agency: 020-Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee
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Part I: Estimates

☐ No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- ☐ If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- ☒ If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- ☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- ☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Sam Brown	Phone: 786-7470	Date: 01/14/2021
Agency Preparation: Michael Mann	Phone: 360-786-6112	Date: 01/14/2021
Agency Approval: Susan Howson	Phone: 360-786-6101	Date: 01/14/2021
OFM Review: Gaius Horton	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date: 01/18/2021

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Briefly describe by section number, the significant provisions of the bill, and any related workload or policy assumptions, that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency.

Requires staff time to create documents and coordinate with other agency personnel.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Briefly describe and quantify the cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency, identifying the cash receipts provisions by section number and when appropriate the detail of the revenue sources. Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Briefly describe the agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), identifying by section number the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings). Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Identify acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and describe potential financing methods

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part IVB*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5182 SB	Title: Advisory votes	Agency: 085-Office of the Secretary of State
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Part I: Estimates

☐ No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2022	FY 2023	2021-23	2023-25	2025-27
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	(299,000)	(471,000)	(770,000)	(1,036,000)	(770,000)
Total \$	(299,000)	(471,000)	(770,000)	(1,036,000)	(770,000)

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- ☒ If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- ☐ If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- ☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- ☒ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Sam Brown	Phone: 786-7470	Date: 01/14/2021
Agency Preparation: Kathy Cody	Phone: (360) 704-5215	Date: 01/19/2021
Agency Approval: Mark Neary	Phone: 360-902-4186	Date: 01/19/2021
OFM Review: Gwen Stamey	Phone: (360) 902-9810	Date: 01/20/2021

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Briefly describe by section number, the significant provisions of the bill, and any related workload or policy assumptions, that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency.

This bill removes advisory votes from the ballot. Additionally, the requirement that the Office of the Secretary of State publish information about the advisory votes in general election voters' pamphlet is also removed.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Briefly describe and quantify the cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency, identifying the cash receipts provisions by section number and when appropriate the detail of the revenue sources. Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Briefly describe the agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), identifying by section number the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings). Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

Section 1 is the Legislative intent and has no fiscal impact.

Section 2 removes the requirement that two pages of information about each advisory vote is included in the general election voters' pamphlet. This section, when viewed in isolation from the rest of the bill, reduces the cost of the voters' pamphlet by approximately \$80,700 for odd-year pamphlets, \$88,500 for even-year pamphlets, and \$78,800 for presidential-year pamphlets by reducing the number of pages printed and mailed by mean of 8.75 pages $[(3.875 \text{ mean advisory votes} * 2 \text{ pages per advisory vote}) + 1 \text{ cover and explanation page}]$. While the same number of advisory vote pages is removed, the composition of the rest of the voters' pamphlet changes with different election years. Because of the non-linear cost structure of certain parts of the voters' pamphlet, the fiscal impact changes year-to-year. The fiscal impact associated with this section is directly offset by the increase in fiscal impact in section 8.

Section 3 removes references to advisory votes from a section of law involving the cost of statewide recounts. Because this section of current law says advisory votes are exempt from recounts, the removal of this language has no fiscal impact when looked at in the totality of this bill.

Section 4 removes references to advisory votes from current law; there is no fiscal impact associated with this section.

Section 5, 6, and 7 taken together remove advisory votes from the ballot. The primary fiscal impact associated with these sections is related to the decrease in the weighted percentage of the state share of election costs. The total cost of an election is split among the jurisdictions using one of two methods:

- 1) A method using only the number of registered voters in each jurisdiction; or
- 2) A method that uses the number of offices and issues for each jurisdiction, as well as the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction to calculate a weighted allocation factor

For the 2019 odd-year election cost reimbursements, which is the last available data, seven counties used method one, while the remaining 32 used method two. Because most counties use method two, which prorates the state share of election costs based on both the number of registered voters and the number of offices and issues on the ballot, a reduction in the number of issues on the ballot will reduce the prorated state share of election costs paid in both odd-year and even-year elections.

Based on historical odd-year election costs and estimates provided by counties for even-year election costs, we estimate the following reductions for the state share of election costs for

- odd-year elections by a mean of \$299,942,
- even-year elections by a mean of \$472,115, and
- Presidential-year elections by a mean of \$737,544.

We based these estimates the on the Monte Carlo simulation model, which uses the probability distributions for the number of advisory votes that may appear in a given year.

Please note, due to a lack of available election cost data from the counties, we were unable to fully model the fiscal impact of removing advisory votes from the ballot. Our assumptions don't necessarily reflect the totality of such a change; such detail as the reduction in ballot printing costs and reduction in staff time to tabulate the advisory votes. It is unknown if such modeling would have a material impact on this analysis.

Section 8 (8) adds an informational section to the voters pamphlet on measures that increase or decrease tax revenue. Based on the information in the bill, and without specific definitions or guidance, we assume that an average of two pages will be needed for each measure. While section 2 of this bill directly offsets this fiscal impact, our current base budget does not include funding for advisory votes and therefore the fiscal impact of this section is calculated at approximately \$80,700 for odd-year pamphlets, \$88,500 for even-year pamphlets, and \$78,800 for presidential-year pamphlets. If funding is provided in the 21-23 biennium for the voters' pamphlet budget request, there would be no fiscal impact associated with this section, since Section 2 and section 8 (8) would directly offset each associated fiscal impact.

Section 8 (9) would add one page to the voters' pamphlet. We assume the pie chart will contain labels and numbers separate from the pie chart itself to facilitate readability. The fiscal impact associated with this section is estimated at \$6,033 per fiscal year.

OSOS has included an additional indirect cost rate of 15% on most objects for administrative support associated with implementing this legislation. Support costs include, but are not limited to, IT support, payroll and accounting services, and human resource services shown in Object T. We have applied a flat fee of \$5,000 to expenditures related to Grants, Benefits, and Client Services because this reflects the level of effort required better than a standard percent.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2022	FY 2023	2021-23	2023-25	2025-27
001-1	General Fund	State	(299,000)	(471,000)	(770,000)	(1,036,000)	(770,000)
Total \$			(299,000)	(471,000)	(770,000)	(1,036,000)	(770,000)

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2022	FY 2023	2021-23	2023-25	2025-27
FTE Staff Years					
A-Salaries and Wages					
B-Employee Benefits					
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	6,000	6,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
G-Travel					
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services	(300,000)	(472,000)	(772,000)	(1,038,000)	(772,000)
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements	(5,000)	(5,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)
9-					
Total \$	(299,000)	(471,000)	(770,000)	(1,036,000)	(770,000)

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Identify acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and describe potential financing methods

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part IVB*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Identify provisions of the measure that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

OSOS would update WAC 434-230-025