

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 1174 S HB	Title: Jail-based voting
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Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Office of the Secretary of State	.5	322,876	322,876	322,876	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
University of Washington	.5	150,208	150,208	150,208	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Total \$	1.0	473,084	473,084	473,084	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Office of the Secretary of State	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
University of Washington	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

NONE

Prepared by: Gwen Stamey, OFM

Phone:
(360) 790-1166

Date Published:
Final 2/16/2023

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1174 S HB	Title: Jail-based voting	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 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	322,876	0	322,876	0	0
Total \$	322,876	0	322,876	0	0

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: Emily Stephens	Phone: 360-786-7157	Date: 02/02/2023
Agency Preparation: Mike Woods	Phone: (360) 704-5215	Date: 02/07/2023
Agency Approval: Mike Woods	Phone: (360) 704-5215	Date: 02/07/2023
OFM Review: Gwen Stamey	Phone: (360) 790-1166	Date: 02/08/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

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

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

Changes in SHB 1174 compared to the previous version (HB 1174)

Makes changes to the jail voting plans and requires the Secretary of State to assign a temporary plan if the county auditor and jail cannot agree on a plan at least 90 days prior to a primary.

Requires data collected by jails to be submitted to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State must publicly report this data annually.

Adds, subject to appropriation, a requirement the Secretary of State enter into an agreement with the University of Washington Evans school of public policy for the purpose of examining the processes associated with voting in jails. A report is due by June 30, 2024.

Summary of SHB 1174

Section 1 defines “jail” to mean a county, city, or tribal jail located in Washington.

Section 3 requires each county auditor’s office to designate one employ as the jail voting coordinator for their county; and each jail must designate one employee as the jail voting coordinator for the jail.

Section 4 requires each county auditor to create a jail voting plan for each jail within their county. The plan must be developed in consultation with the Office of the Secretary of State (OSOS). The plan must e jointly adopted by the county auditor and jail. The initial plan must be adopted by January 1, 2024 and must be reviewed and readopted every two years. If the county auditor and a jail cannot jointly agree on adopting a plan at least 90 days prior to a primary, the Secretary of State shall assign a temporary plan until a plan is jointly adopted.

Section 5 requires jails:

- To provide people who are incarcerated with access to voter information.
- Permit elections official to enter the jails at least 30 days in advance of elections to provide voter registration outreach.
- Provide information about registering to vote.
- Must document all voting-related requests and complaints made by people who are incarcerated.
- Collect data related to voter registration and ballot return from people who are incarcerated.
- The data collected under this section must be reported to the relevant county auditor and the Secretary of State. The Secretary must publicly report this data annually.

Section 8

Subject to appropriation, the Secretary of State must enter into an agreement with the University of Washington Evans school of public policy for the purpose of examining the processes associated with providing voter registration, voting materials and voting assistance to people who are incarcerated in jails throughout the state. A final report must be submitted to the Governor, Secretary of State and the legislature by June 30, 2024.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

The bill will increase the costs of conducting elections for each county (or at least the ones who have a jail as defined in the bill). The bill does not regulate exactly how much outreach or staff time each county is required to commit. The State is responsible for a share of the costs of elections conducted in which there is at least one federal, state, legislative, certain judicial offices, or state measure appearing on the ballot. OSOS has no way of estimating the additional costs of elections resulting from this bill, therefore cannot estimate the impact on the state’s share. OSOS does believe the impact would be minimal.

Section 4 requires each county auditor to create a jail voting plan for each jail within the county. The plan must be created in consultation with the jail voting coordinator at each jail and with the OSOS. The initial plans must be adopted by January 1, 2024 and reviewed and readopted at least every two years. If the auditor and jail cannot agree on a plan, the Secretary of State shall assign a temporary plan. This would require a portion of an FTE to prepare in advance a minimum jail voting plan that could be implemented. That FTE could also review the proposed plan and collaborate with the county auditor and jail to find an agreeable plan. Additionally, this FTE can obtain the jail voting plans from all counties, distribute best practices, and facilitate data and information sharing between the jail voting coordinators.

The amount of staff time OSOS needs to devote to consultation with counties will be determined by the level of elections expertise in each county and county jail and cannot be accurately projected. OSOS could need to devote from .5 to 1 FTE Program Specialist 4 to the effort at a cost of \$65,000 to \$143,000 in SFY23 for compensation, standard goods and services, travel, and office equipment purchases in FY24. OSOS assumes the costs would be one-time in FY24 only. Ongoing impacts of Section 5(7) would be absorbed within existing resources.

Section 5(7) requires the Secretary of State to annually publicly report data collected from jails. This would require notification of the deadline to submit the required data, consolidate the data, evaluate, and publish the required public report.

Section 8 requires the Secretary of State to enter into an agreement with the University of Washington to prepare a report on jail voting. The report is due by June 30, 2024. The UW has estimated the cost of conducting the study and preparing the report to be \$180,000 in FY24.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
001-1	General Fund	State	322,876	0	322,876	0	0
Total \$			322,876	0	322,876	0	0

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	1.0		0.5		
A-Salaries and Wages	75,120		75,120		
B-Employee Benefits	28,270		28,270		
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	185,850		185,850		
G-Travel	2,500		2,500		
J-Capital Outlays	12,500		12,500		
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements	18,636		18,636		
9-					
Total \$	322,876	0	322,876	0	0

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*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Program Specialist 4	75,120	1.0		0.5		
Total FTEs		1.0		0.5		0.0

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

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

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

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1174 S HB	Title: Jail-based voting	Agency: 360-University of Washington
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	150,208	0	150,208	0	0
Total \$	150,208	0	150,208	0	0

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: Emily Stephens	Phone: 360-786-7157	Date: 02/02/2023
Agency Preparation: Michael Lantz	Phone: 2065437466	Date: 02/07/2023
Agency Approval: Charlotte Shannon	Phone: 2066858868	Date: 02/07/2023
OFM Review: Ramona Nabors	Phone: (360) 742-8948	Date: 02/08/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

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

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

Substitute House Bill 1174 concerns jail-based voting.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Section 8 of the measure requires, subject to appropriated funds, the Washington Secretary of State's Office to contract with the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Washington (UW) to conduct a study examining jail-based voting. The section specifies what must be included in the study and requires the submission of a final report by June 30, 2024.

The Evans School assesses that the following staff will be needed to complete the study:

- Principal Investigator (annual salary: 170,484; benefits rate: 24.1%) – Will be responsible for the design and execution of surveys, in-depth interviews, and site visits with election offices and jail administrators in Washington state. This investigator will also host a convening of experts to discuss project findings and recommendations and will lead the completion of the final report. Estimated FTE: 0.23
- Evans Policy Innovation Collaborative (EPIC) Director (annual salary: \$90,636; benefits rate: 31.8%) – Will participate in planning the project convening and helping create research product deliverables. Estimated FTE: 0.05
- EPIC Staff 1 (annual salary: \$70,008; benefits rate: 31.8%) – Will participate in data collection and planning the project convening. Estimated FTE: 0.05
- EPIC Staff 2 (annual salary: \$67,922; benefits rate: 31.8%) - Will participate in planning the project convening and helping create research product deliverables. Estimated FTE: 0.05
- IT Support Staff (annual salary: \$78,000; benefits rate: 31.8%) – Will assist with online survey development, programming, and implementation. Estimated FTE: 0.05
- PH.D. Research Associate – Summer (annual salary: \$90,757; benefits rate: 21.3%) – Will assist in data collection and analytic work over the 2023 and 2024 summers. Estimated FTE: 0.12
- PH.D. Research Associate – Academic Year (annual salary: \$74,520; benefits rate: 21.3% - Will assist in data collection and analytic work during the 2023/24 academic year. Estimated FTE: 0.38

The Evans School assesses the following related costs associated with this study:

- Good and Services - \$5,000 to offset the costs associated with hosting the project convening.
- Travel - \$10,000 to offset in-state travel for project-related data collection and project convening.

- Grants, Benefits and Services - \$18,779 to cover the tuition costs for the PH.D. Research Associate during the 2023/24 academic year. This is a standard part of the compensation package for graduate research associates.

Overall, the estimated impact to the UW is \$150,208 for the 2024 fiscal year.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
001-1	General Fund	State	150,208	0	150,208	0	0
Total \$			150,208	0	150,208	0	0

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.9		0.5		
A-Salaries and Wages	93,752		93,752		
B-Employee Benefits	22,677		22,677		
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	5,000		5,000		
G-Travel	10,000		10,000		
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services	18,779		18,779		
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
Total \$	150,208	0	150,208	0	0

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*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
EPIC Director	90,636	0.1		0.0		
EPIC Staff 1	70,008	0.1		0.0		
EPIC Staff 2	67,992	0.1		0.0		
IT Support Staff	78,000	0.1		0.0		
PH.D. Research Associate - Academic Year	74,520	0.4		0.2		
PH.D. Research Associate - Summer	90,757	0.1		0.1		
Principal Investigator	170,484	0.2		0.1		
Total FTEs		0.9		0.5		0.0

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

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

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

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 1174 S HB

Title: Jail-based voting

Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

Legislation Impacts:

- Cities:** Indeterminate increase in city jail staff and any materials required by the jail's voting plan. No change to election costs. Election costs already include printing voter pamphlets and ballots for people who are incarcerated.
- Counties:** Indeterminate increases in auditors' staffing, printing and equipment costs. County jails would incur the same costs as city jails described above.
- Special Districts:**
- Specific jurisdictions only:**
- Variance occurs due to:** Counties' optional printed materials provided to jails; number of incarcerated people in each county; number of jails in each county where auditors will have to make jail voting plans.

Part II: Estimates

- No fiscal impacts.
- Expenditures represent one-time costs:
- Legislation provides local option:
- Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time:** Number of candidates that will campaign in jails; number of election and jail staff required at each facility; printing and equipment requirements; auditors' current print media provided to each jail.

Estimated revenue impacts to:

None

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Kate Fernald	Phone: 564-200-3519	Date: 02/16/2023
Leg. Committee Contact: Emily Stephens	Phone: 360-786-7157	Date: 02/02/2023
Agency Approval: Alice Zillah	Phone: 360-725-5035	Date: 02/16/2023
OFM Review: Gwen Stamey	Phone: (360) 790-1166	Date: 02/16/2023

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.

CHANGES BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

The substitute version of the bill would add jail and auditor requirements to the Jail Voting Plan, and require Jail Voting Plans to be adopted by January 1, 2024 and readopted every two years thereafter. It also requires jails to give equal access to candidates who wish to campaign in jails, and it requires jails to collect and submit voting data.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL:

The legislation would add four new sections to chapter 29A.04: Elections General Provisions.

Sec. 3 (1) requires each county auditor's office to designate one employee as the jail voting coordinator for the county, and it requires each jail to designate one employee as the jail voting coordinator for the jail.

Sec. 4 (1) adds a new section that requires each county auditor to create a jail voting plan for each jail in the county. The plan must be created with the jail voting coordinator at each jail and with the Office of the Secretary of State. The Jail Voting Plan must be jointly adopted by the county auditor and the jail. The initial plan must be adopted by January 1, 2024, and plans must be reviewed and readopted at least every two years. If the county auditor and a jail cannot agree upon a jail plan at least 90 days before the primary, then the Secretary of State shall issue a temporary jail plan until a plan is jointly adopted. The jail voting plan must include all details outlined in section 4 (2).

Sec. 4 (2) lists the minimum details that must be included in a jail voting plan. The plan must describe how the jail will help people who are incarcerated to:

- Register to vote or update voter registration
- Access proof of their identification or residency
- Access information and materials for voting eligibility and restoration
- Access nonpartisan information about candidates and other voter education materials including voters' pamphlets and other governmental-related materials
- Access necessary writing materials to fill out ballots
- Complete ballots in private

Sec. 4 (3) adds that the jail plan must also specify how the jail and the county auditor will:

- (a) Provide visible information on registering to vote and accessing a ballot for people who are incarcerated.
- (b) Ensure all incarcerated people are made aware of key dates for registering to vote and returning a ballot.
- (c) Establish a process by which voter registration and ballot return data is collected.
- (d) Establish a process by which voting related requests and complaints from people who are incarcerated are documented and properly considered.
- (e) Accommodate people with disabilities to register to vote and to fill out ballots including the use of accessible voting devices provided by the county auditor.
- (f) Provide equal access to candidates who request to campaign in jails.

Sec. 5 (1) adds a new section that lists new requirements for all jails. Jails will be required to provide access to voter registration information, ballot-related information and ballots according to the jail's plan. Additionally, jails must make ballots accessible to registered voters at least 18 days before a primary or election.

Sec. 5 (2) allows election officials from the county auditor's office and the Office of the Secretary of State's to enter the jail at least 30 days before each primary and general election. They will provide voter registration outreach and education. Election officials are subject to standard local jail clearance processes.

Sec. 5 (3) requires jails to treat election-related materials delivered by mail or sent by people who are incarcerated as high priority mail.

Sec. 5 (4) clarifies that jails must provide information about and materials necessary for registering to vote to all people who are released from the jail's custody.

Sec. 5 (5) requires jails to document all voting related requests and complaints made by incarcerated people.

Sec. 5 (6) requires jails to collect data related to vote registration and ballot returns from people who are incarcerated.

Sec. 5 (7) adds that data collected under (5) and (6) of this section must be reported to the relevant county auditor and the Secretary of State (SOS). The SOS must publish this information annually.

B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS

Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

CHANGES IN EXPENDITURE IMPACTS BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

The substitute version of the bill would cause an indeterminate increase in jail costs due to requiring jails to provide equal access to candidates who want to campaign in the jails. However, the number of candidates that will campaign in jails cannot be estimated in advance, so the cost impact is ultimately indeterminate. Additionally, any costs auditors experience from the substitute would be de minimis.

The substitute bill requires jails to allow candidates to campaign in the jails, resulting in jails incurring additional expenditures due to increased needs for staffing and security. If a candidate campaigned in a jail, the jail would have to separate inmates by classification for their protection and the protection of staff and visitors. In some jails that means moving small groups of inmates to a classroom for the candidate(s); searching the area before and after; searching the inmates before and after; and or escorting the candidates to the living units to talk with inmates in their cells.

For illustrative purposes, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) estimates this could require two additional FTEs for at least six months of the year, an FTE to perform background checks and maintain clearances, and .25 of a sergeant's time to administer. The following salary estimates are from the 2022 Association of Washington Cities' Salary and Benefits Survey.

- 2 FTE corrections officers for 6 months: \$69,588 (\$5,799 x 6 months x 2FTE)
 - .25 FTE corrections officer for 6 months: \$8,699 (\$5,799 x 6 months x .25 FTE)
 - .25 FTE sergeant: \$10,778 (\$7,185 x 6 months x .25 FTE)
- Potential cost for 1 jail: \$89,065

- 37 county jails x \$89,065 = \$3,295,405
- 14 city jails x \$89,065 = \$1,246,910
- 2 multi-jurisdiction jails x \$89,065 = \$178,130

Note: Hiring bonuses are common now and could result in additional indeterminate expenditures if provided.

The substitute bill's potential additional impact to local government: \$4,720,445.

EXPENDITURE IMPACTS OF CURRENT BILL:

City, county and tribal jails, and county auditors would incur indeterminate increased expenditures resulting from the legislation due to additional staff, printing and equipment costs.

Auditors and jails would incur indeterminate increases in staffing costs. The legislation requires auditors and jails to increase voter outreach, designate one employee as the jail voting coordinator, and to create a jail voting plan for every city, county or tribal jail in Washington state. Staff costs would vary across counties and jails in accordance with the varying size and average daily populations of each jail. Additionally, counties with a greater number of incarcerated people, or with more than one city, county or tribal jail in the county's boundaries would require additional staff time to conduct voter outreach with a greater number of people, and to establish jail plans with more than one jail. Jail voting plans would also have indeterminate impacts on counties and jails depending on the requirements of each jail's plan.

Auditors' printing costs could also indeterminately increase depending on the jail voting plan that each jail would establish. Auditors may need to print information and materials for voting eligibility and restoration; voter education materials; visible information on registering to vote and accessing a ballot; and print media to ensure all incarcerated people are made aware of key voting dates. If the plan requires auditors to print any materials beyond those which they already provide, then counties could incur additional indeterminate printing costs.

County printing costs will vary by county due to the fact that different counties currently print different materials for jails. Whatcom County Auditor's Office shared that voter pamphlets, registration forms, and ballots are currently provided for jails, as required. Additionally, written notice about the process to restore the person's voting rights must be provided prior to the person being released from the facility.

However, posters that visibly provide information regarding registering to vote or upcoming key voting dates are optional. Consequently, jail voting plans' impact on counties' printing costs could differ. If a jail voting plan required print materials that a county is already providing, then printing costs would not be impacted. But if a jail voting plan required a county to print new materials, then the county would incur new costs for printing the new materials. The printing requirements that will be identified in each jail's voting plan cannot be predicted, and the current print media supplied by auditors to jails is not known. Therefore, potential increases in printing costs are indeterminate.

To demonstrate how the legislation's cumulative cost impacts could vary by county, potential cost estimates were provided by Whatcom and Thurston County Auditors' Offices. Note that Thurston County has more than one jail in the county, so their total costs resulting from the legislation would be greater than the one jail estimate that they provided for this fiscal note.

According to the staffing projections anticipated by Whatcom County Auditor's Office, Whatcom County would incur and additional \$12,800 in staffing costs to fulfill the obligations of the legislation at Whatcom County Jail. Whatcom noted that anticipating staff costs was difficult because Whatcom's voter outreach efforts with people who are incarcerated have always been coordinated remotely. To estimate the required staff needed, Whatcom used Whatcom County Jail's 2021 average daily population rate of 222 incarcerated people, according to the Washington Association of Sheriff and Police Chiefs (WASPC). Then, the Whatcom County Auditor's Office estimated 4 staff would be needed to work 40 hours before each election at \$40 per hour. Washington State Association of County Auditors (WSACA) estimates the 2023 average election staff hourly salary is \$40, including benefits. Because election staff positions vary by county, WSACA's election staff hourly pay estimate was used to calculate potential cost impacts for illustrative purposes only. The legislation's total staffing cost, then, for Whatcom County's auditor's office would be \$12,800 (4 new staff x 40 hours x 2 elections per year x \$40 per hour staff wage). This assumes there are no special elections. The total cost would be approximately \$58 per incarcerated person.

Thurston County Auditor's Office estimated it would cost \$15,400.80 to implement the legislation at Thurston County Jail, but their jail has a slightly higher average daily population at 282 incarcerated people, according to WASPC. Thurston County's estimated printing costs would total \$2,500 (\$1,500 for jail voter guides and \$1,000 for posters). The Thurston County Auditor's Office estimated 3 staff positions for each visit, totaling \$3,803.56. They also anticipated making an educational video totaling \$1,000. Thurston County's cost per incarcerated person would be approximately \$55.

The midpoint between Whatcom County and Thurston County's staff costs per incarcerated person is approximately \$56. For illustrative purposes only, if all 39 counties experienced costs that averaged \$56 per incarcerated person, all county auditors' total printing and staffing costs would be \$401,912. Note: this is for illustrative purposes only. Actual costs cannot be predicted. The illustrative estimate uses Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs' 2021 estimated 7,177 incarcerated people in all county jails x \$56 per person cost).

Additionally, counties may also need to purchase computers and printers, and to set up polling stations within jails. Equipment costs are not known and the equipment required for each jail will vary based on each jail's voting plan. Therefore, equipment costs are indeterminate.

Note: more precise county cost estimates may be available later in 2023 due to a grant program in the 2022 enacted budget, Section 120 (20) - page 37, line 10. \$2,534,000 was allocated to establish a new grant opportunity for county jail voting programs. The grant supported voter registration and voting within county jails, similar to the activities proposed in HB 1174. Each county grantee must submit a postelection report to the Secretary of State by February 1, 2023 detailing the use of grant funding. Postelection reports must be delivered to the Legislature by June 30, 2023.

Regarding jail impacts, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) struggled to find an approximate cost. In conversations with the Secretary of State, WASPC learned the approximate \$2.5 million in grant funding was exclusively for county auditors, not for jails, to implement a substantially similar program in a substantially similar way. WASPC reasoned if the Governor's office estimated it would cost participating county auditors approximately \$2,534,000 to implement this program, then it would cost jails that same amount.

Jails will incur several duties as a result of the legislation, and those duties will likely increase jail expenditures. However, because jail voting plans have not been determined, the amount of work and requisite staff required cannot be predicted.

Additionally, jails would be required to allow candidates to equally campaign in the jails. Costs are discussed above. However, because the number of candidates that will campaign in jails cannot be estimated in advance, the cost impact is indeterminate.

Therefore, the legislation's expenditure impact to jails is indeterminate.

C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

CHANGES IN REVENUE IMPACTS BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

The substitute would not impact local government revenue.

REVENUE IMPACTS OF CURRENT BILL:

The original legislation would not impact local government revenue.

SOURCES:

Office of the Secretary of State

Thurston County Auditor's Office

Washington Association of County Auditors

Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

Whatcom County Auditor's Office