

STATE and LOCAL FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 12-0295
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Ferrandino

Date: January 26, 2012
Bill Status: House SVMA
Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

TITLE: CONCERNING AN ADJUSTMENT IN THE REIMBURSEMENT RATES THE STATE PAYS COUNTY GOVERNMENTS FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ELECTIONS INVOLVING STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
Cash Funds		
Department of State Cash Fund	\$466,257	\$466,257
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013: See State Appropriations section.		
Local Government Impact: See Local Government Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

In elections with statewide ballot measures, the Secretary of State reimburses counties a set amount for each active, registered voter to help offset election costs in the counties. This bill increases the reimbursement provided to counties by \$0.20 for each active, registered voter in the county when statewide measures are on the ballot. Therefore, the per voter reimbursement increases from \$0.70 to \$0.90 in counties with more than 10,000 voters and from \$0.80 to \$1.00 in counties with less than 10,000 or fewer voters.

State Expenditures

The bill increases costs in the Department of State by \$466,257 per year beginning in FY 2012-13 from the Department of State Cash Fund. Table 1 shows the increased reimbursement amount provided to each county. The fiscal note assumes an 11 percent increase in the number of registered voters between January 1, 2012, and November 6, 2012, because of the upcoming presidential election. It is also assumed that there will be statewide ballot measures in both 2012 and 2013.

Based on these assumptions, total appropriations for county reimbursement will increase to \$2,113,423 in FY 2012-13. Given that the current appropriation to the Department of State for county election reimbursement is \$1,725,699, this analysis estimates that an additional appropriation of \$387,724 is sufficient to cover the increased costs for county reimbursement created in the bill.

Local Government Impact

The bill will increase reimbursement to counties by \$466,257 per year beginning in FY 2012-13 in years when a statewide ballot measure is on the ballot as shown in Table 1. This funding is used to offset the costs of election administration incurred by the counties.

Table 1. Increased Election Reimbursement to Counties under HB12-1143			
County	Projected Number of Active Registered Voters	Increase in Reimbursement Rate	Total Increase in Reimbursement
Adams	145,660	\$0.20	\$29,132
Alamosa	6,224	0.20	1,245
Arapahoe	257,346	0.20	51,469
Archuleta	6,479	0.20	1,296
Baca	2,293	0.20	459
Bent	1,966	0.20	393
Boulder	158,237	0.20	31,647
Broomfield	29,348	0.20	5,870
Chaffee	10,564	0.20	2,113
Cheyenne	1,190	0.20	238
Clear Creek	5,533	0.20	1,107
Conejos	4,177	0.20	835
Costilla	2,050	0.20	410
Crowley	1,572	0.20	314
Custer	2,823	0.20	565
Delta	15,854	0.20	3,171
Denver	260,662	0.20	52,132
Dolores	1,306	0.20	261
Douglas	153,814	0.20	30,763
Eagle	20,684	0.20	4,137
El Paso	259,482	0.20	51,896
Elbert	13,603	0.20	2,721
Fremont	21,204	0.20	4,241
Garfield	22,658	0.20	4,532
Gilpin	3,230	0.20	646
Grand	8,393	0.20	1,679
Gunnison	7,436	0.20	1,487
Hinsdale	682	0.20	136
Huerfano	3,778	0.20	756
Jackson	937	0.20	187
Jefferson	283,434	0.20	56,687
Kiowa	924	0.20	185
Kit Carson	3,825	0.20	765
La Plata	25,441	0.20	5,088
Lake	2,786	0.20	557
Larimer	171,787	0.20	34,357
Las Animas	6,523	0.20	1,305
Lincoln	2,314	0.20	463
Logan	9,345	0.20	1,869
Mesa	69,754	0.20	13,951

Table 1. Increased Election Reimbursement to Counties under HB12-1143 (Cont.)			
County	Projected Number of Active Registered Voters	Increase in Reimbursement Rate	Total Increase in Reimbursement
Mineral	694	0.20	139
Moffat	5,724	0.20	1,145
Montezuma	12,393	0.20	2,479
Montrose	19,529	0.20	3,906
Morgan	10,281	0.20	2,056
Otero	7,965	0.20	1,593
Ouray	3,137	0.20	627
Park	8,978	0.20	1,796
Phillips	2,303	0.20	461
Pitkin	8,725	0.20	1,745
Prowers	4,701	0.20	940
Pueblo	70,216	0.20	14,043
Rio Blanco	3,144	0.20	629
Rio Grande	5,200	0.20	1,040
Routt	12,816	0.20	2,563
Saguache	2,983	0.20	597
San Juan	583	0.20	117
San Miguel	3,827	0.20	765
Sedgwick	1,467	0.20	293
Summit	13,607	0.20	2,721
Teller	12,284	0.20	2,457
Washington	2,688	0.20	538
Weld	107,962	0.20	21,592
Yuma	4,757	0.20	951
TOTAL	2,331,282		\$466,257

State Appropriations

The bill requires an appropriation to the Department of State of \$387,724 from the Department of State Cash Fund in FY 2012-13.

Departments Contacted

State Counties