

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 18, 2005**

**TO:** Honorable Mary Denny, Chair, House Committee on Elections

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Deputy Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2262** by Baxter (Relating to requiring a voter who is on the suspense list of voters to cast a provisional ballot.), **As Introduced**

<b>No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would require early voting clerks to issue an order calling for the appointment of a signature verification committee for each election. The bill would also add requirements related to accepting a provisional ballot cast by a person whose name appears on a precinct list of registered voters with an "S" or similar notation next to their name. The requirement that a signature verification committee be appointed in the general election for state and county officers on submission of a written request signed by at least 15 registered voters would be repealed.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2005 and would apply only to an election ordered on or after that date.

**Local Government Impact**

Under current statute, other than the requirement that would be repealed, the voting clerk has discretion whether to appoint a signature verification committee, and a voter with the notation "S" or similar notation may vote in the election precinct in which the list is used if the voter satisfies the residence requirements instead of being required to use a provisional ballot.

The fiscal impact would vary by county. Counties would incur costs for an increase in the number of provisional ballots and forms printed

**Source Agencies:** 307 Secretary of State

**LBB Staff:** JOB, DLBa