

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 15, 2013

TO: Honorable Geanie Morrison, Chair, House Committee On Elections

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB985** by Elkins (Relating to the deadlines by which provisional ballots must be processed and the state canvass must be conducted for certain elections.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Election Code to require an early voting ballot board to verify and count provisional ballots not later than the 13th day after a general election for state and county officers and would require the voter registrar to review a provisional voter's eligibility. In certain elections, the procedures would require the allowance for seven calendar days for the voter registrar to review a provisional voter's eligibility.

The Governor would be required to conduct the state canvass at the time set by the Secretary of State, not earlier than the 15th or later than the 30th day after election day or not earlier than the 18th or later than the 33rd day after election day for an election held on the date of the general election for state and county officers.

The Secretary of State and the Office of the Governor indicate the provisions of the bill could be implemented within existing resources.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2013.

Local Government Impact

There could be a fiscal impact to a county associated with the requirement of a voter registrar to verify and county provisional ballots not later than the 13th day after an election, but amounts would vary depending on current procedures in a county. No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 301 Office of the Governor, 307 Secretary of State

LBB Staff: UP, KJo, EP, CK, KKR