

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

**FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 31, 2013**

**TO:** Honorable Robert Duncan, Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB910** by Duncan (Relating to certain election practices and procedures.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend the Election Code and the Government Code relating to certain election practices and procedures. The bill would amend the Election Code to allow for the delivery, submission, or filing of a document or paper to be made by telephonic facsimile machine, and provides guidelines for submission by such method. The bill would require the Secretary of State to determine annually whether or not information filed by a local registrar of deaths must be filed electronically. The bill would allow the Secretary of State to determine when certain submitted documents become public information.

The bill would allow the Secretary of State to prescribe the form and content of a ballot for an election using a voting system to conform to the formatting requirements of the system. The bill would remove the requirement that votes received in person by an early voting clerk, from an individual who is unable to enter a voting location, be received in the form of a sealed envelope. The bill would revise the location to which balloting materials must be addressed and revise the date of when a copy of an application for a ballot to be voted by mail becomes available for public inspection.

The bill would allow the Secretary of State to prescribe different forms of application for a place on a ballot for an office of the federal government, state government, or a political party. The bill would amend: filing deadlines for an application for a place on certain ballots; the date a political party may submit a nominee for certain elections; and the election dates of certain elections. The bill would revise which costs of a recount are assessable against a person, and repeal Section 86.001(f) of the Election Code, related to reviewing applications and providing ballots.

The bill would amend the Government Code to require the Secretary of State to determine whether information filed, related to individuals' ability to serve on a jury, shall be filed electronically.

The Secretary of State indicates the provisions of the bill could be implemented within existing resources.

The bill would take effect on September 1, 2013.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 307 Secretary of State

**LBB Staff:** UP, AG, EP, CK, AHE