

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

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**  
**Revision 1**

**April 27, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Jodie Laubenberg, Chair, House Committee on Elections

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

**IN RE: HB953** by Alvarado (Relating to electronic voter registration.), **As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB953, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$208,000) through the biennium ending August 31, 2017.

There could be savings to the state related to a reduction of postage and printing costs as a result of implementing the provisions of the bill. However, the Secretary of State indicates that the savings cannot be estimated since the number of persons that would register to vote online in each county cannot be determined with any degree of certainty.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</b>
2016	(\$208,000)
2017	\$0
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund</b>
2016	(\$208,000)
2017	\$0
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0

## **Fiscal Analysis**

The bill would require the Secretary of State (SOS) to implement a program to allow a person who has a valid driver's license or state personal identification card to complete a voter registration application over the Internet from certain websites. The bill would require SOS to obtain a digital copy of the applicant's signature from the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The bill would require SOS to adopt rules including rules to provide for additional security measures.

The bill would take effect on September 1, 2015.

## **Methodology**

Under the provisions of the bill, it is assumed the fiscal impact would be \$208,000 in fiscal year 2016 for technology related costs, and \$0 each fiscal year from 2017-2020.

## **Technology**

The SOS indicates that they would need to program the necessary software for this project and to import, verify, secure, and store the applicant's digital signature. It is assumed that the SOS would need two contractors at \$100.00 per hour for 1,040 hours each for a total of \$208,000 in fiscal year 2016.

In addition, DPS estimates there would be a minimal cost associated with implementing the provisions of the bill.

## **Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 307 Secretary of State, 405 Department of Public Safety

**LBB Staff:** UP, AG, EP, CM, SD, JAW