

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 29, 2009

TO: Honorable Todd Smith, Chair, House Committee on Elections
FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board
IN RE: **HB1457** by Hochberg (Relating to procedures concerning voter registration.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Secretary of State (SOS) to adopt rules establishing standards for the verification of information on a voter registration application submitted by a registrar under Election Code, Section 13.072(a)(2)(A). If SOS cannot verify certain information or certain information is not a perfect match, the bill would require SOS to provide the registrar with the name and date of birth of the applicant. The bill would also require a voter registrar to correct records returned by the SOS if the registrar determines that a governmental clerical error was made on an application, and then return the corrected application to the SOS. If an application is rejected for failure to verify, the bill would require the registrar to deliver written notice of the reason why. SOS and the Department of Public Safety indicate that they are already doing the majority of the items the bill would require and could absorb additional costs associated with this bill within existing resources. The bill would be effective immediately if it receives two-thirds vote or on September 1, 2009.

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: JOB, TP, MS, BTA, LG