

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200
Hartford, CT 06106 ◇ (860) 240-0200
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

May 15, 2025

CORRECTION

To Fiscal Note on
HB-7241, File No. 652

AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Cost	Up to 135,000	Up to 25,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
All Municipalities	STATE MANDATE ¹ - Cost	Up to 650,000 Total	Up to 1,050,000 Total

Explanation

This correction replaces a previous version of the note and addendum. This bill authorizes all eligible voters to apply for and cast

¹ State mandate is defined in Sec. 2-32b(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, "state mandate" means any state initiated constitutional, statutory or executive action that requires a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

an absentee ballot resulting in the costs described below.

The bill results in a cost to the Secretary of the State (SOTS) in FY 27 of up to \$135,000² in FY 26 and \$25,000³ in FY 27. The exact cost will depend on the number of additional⁴ electors who choose to vote absentee as a result of the legislation⁵.

The bill additionally, results in a total cost to municipalities of up to \$650,000 in FY 26⁶ and up to \$1,050,000 in FY 27 for printing, postage, labor, and storage costs to process the expected increase in absentee voting. The exact cost will vary by town depending on the number of additional absentee ballots printed, applications mailed, and labor and resources required to facilitate additional⁷ absentee voting.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, voter preference of voting method, and participation.

² The FY 26 estimate includes expected costs for a municipal general election, and a municipal primary. The FY 27 estimate includes a state election and state election primary.

³ There is an expected up to \$10,000 in additional printing cost related to the expected increase in absentee voting anticipated in FY 26, and \$25,000 in FY 27. There is also a one-time cost associated with the reprinting of absentee ballot applications and materials of \$125,000 in FY 26.

⁴ The expected ceiling assumes an increase of the electorate participating via absentee voting each town is 10%. This would represent an estimated maximum absentee voter increase of 234,365 for State Elections; 108,540 for a State Election Primary; 121,016 for a Municipal Election and 79,530 for Municipal Primaries.

⁵ If the increase of the electorate participating via absentee voting in each town is 2%, the estimated costs for SOTS in FY 26 are anticipated to be \$128,000 and \$8,000 in FY 27.

⁶ The FY 26 estimate includes expected costs for a municipal general election, and a municipal primary. The FY 27 estimate includes a state election, and state election primary.

⁷ If the increase of the electorate participating via absentee voting in each town is 2%, the estimated costs for Municipalities in FY 26 are anticipated to be \$350,000 and \$450,000 in FY 27.