OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HB-7242 AN ACT STUDYING EFFORTS TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION AND AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL PILOT PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE SUCH EFFORTS. AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 10271 File Copy No.: 927 House Calendar No.: 396 Senate Calendar No.: 483

OFA Fiscal Note

Cost

The amendment creates a variety of additional provisions around absentee voting, including additional requirements to municipalities, the Office of the Secretary of the State (SOTS), and the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) resulting in a cost to SOTS, a potential cost to SEEC and a cost to municipalities.

The amendment requires SOTS to examine roughly 2.3 million registered voters against several databases to determine eligibility resulting in a cost. This cost is associated with additional staff hours and resources required to meet the provisions of the bill.

The amendment creates an additional set of procedures for municipal registrars following elections, requiring the usage of additional labor and postage or printing costs. The exact cost will depend on the number of absentee ballots received by each municipality, and the additional resources required to comply with the provisions of the bill.

Additionally, the amendment requires municipalities to reach out to absentee voters following the election; and requires them to refer names of those who participated via absentee voting but who did not receive post-election mailings due to the address being undeliverable to SEEC. This results in a potential cost to SEEC to the extent that additional resources are required to complete investigations created by the amendment.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.