

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5001

AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL AND
VARIOUS OTHER REFORMS RELATED TO THE
ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 6004

File Copy No.: 725

House Calendar No.: 348

Senate Calendar No.: 460

OFA Fiscal Note

Cost

The amendment creates a variety of additional provisions regarding absentee voting, including additional requirements for municipalities, the Office of the Secretary of the State (SOTS), and the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC). This results in a cost to SOTS beginning in FY 26, a potential cost to SEEC beginning in FY 27, and a cost to all municipalities beginning in FY 27.

The amendment requires SOTS to annually examine roughly 2.5 million registered voters against multiple databases to determine eligibility, resulting in an annual cost for additional staff hours and resources.

The amendment creates an additional set of procedures for municipal registrars following elections.

Among other provisions, the amendment requires municipalities to reach out to absentee voters following the election and requires them to refer (via SOTS) to SEEC the names of those who participated via absentee voting but who did not receive post-election mailings due to the address being undeliverable. The mailings are estimated to cost

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statewide between \$150,000 and \$375,000 annually beginning in FY 27 across all municipalities. This cost will fluctuate annually depending on voter participation via absentee voting. The exact cost of other municipal requirements will depend on the number of absentee ballots received by each municipality.

Additionally, the amendment results in a potential cost to SEEC beginning in FY 27 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.