

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: SB 224 - 2

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Date: June 3, 2019

Measure Description:

Removes requirement that county clerk move elector to inactive status if elector has neither voted nor updated registration for five or more years.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Counties, Secretary of State (SOS), Special Districts

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

SB 224 - 2 modifies requirements related to elections. It removes the requirement that a voter will be declared inactive if the voter has not updated their registration or voted for five years, and it allows military personnel and voters overseas to submit a request for a ballot by mail, email, fax, or other means determined by the Secretary of State (SOS) by rule. This measure changes requirements for disclosure of voter information, allowing a political party to request a statewide list of electors from the Secretary of State at no cost; previously these lists were requested county by county from county clerks. The measure also changes statutes related to elected office vacancies; expands the definition of special district; modifies the number and type of signatures required for a nominating petition for an elected office; and changes requirements for elections of precinct committeepersons. Finally, the measure repeals ORS 248.010, which allows a major or minor political party exclusive right to use the party name, and contains conflict amendments related to HB 2491.

The - 2 amendment itself has no fiscal impact on SOS. However, SB 224 as introduced would have removed language from ORS 260.695 that the Department of Justice has deemed unconstitutional. SB 224 with the - 2 amendment does not include any changes to ORS 260.695. SOS believes that retaining ORS 260.695 as-is could lead to lawsuits, though potential legal costs are indeterminate.

There is no fiscal impact to Counties or Special Districts.