

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2125 - SB 2101

February 15, 2016

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the Rutherford County Election Commission (RCEC) to create a pilot project to establish convenient voting centers on Election Day, if the pilot project is adopted by resolution by a super majority vote of the RCEC; provided the RCEC submits a written plan for approval to the Coordinator of Elections prior to implementing convenient voting centers. Such pilot project shall only apply to elections occurring in 2016 following enactment of this bill.

Requires convenient voting centers used in the pilot project to have a secure electronic connection to the computerized voter registration system maintained by the RCEC, permitting all voting information processed by any computer at a convenient voting center to be immediately accessible to all other computers at all convenient voting centers in the county. Requires each convenient voting center to meet applicable federal and state laws, including the accessibility requirements of the Help America Vote Act in 42 U.S.C. § 15301.

Requires the RCEC to publish in a newspaper of general circulation the location of the convenient voting centers no less than 30 days before the election. Requires the Coordinator of Elections to file a report with the State and Local Government Committee of the Senate and the Local Government Committee of the House of Representatives by January 31 following any election conducted under the pilot project.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase Local Expenditures – Net Impact –
\$26,600/One-Time/Rutherford County/Permissive**

Assumptions:

- Elections will be held in Rutherford County in August and November of 2016; no additional elections will be held during 2016.
- Based on information provided by the Rutherford County Election Commission, if the Commission votes to participate in the pilot project, it will require additional computers, network capabilities, and voter notification expenses for the August 2016 election of approximately \$77,420.
- The Commission indicates a decrease in local expenditures, per election, resulting from savings in personnel, training, and election supplies. The estimated decrease in local

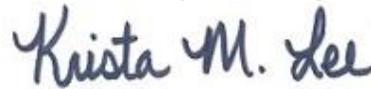
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expenditures per election is estimated to be \$25,420, beginning with the August 2016 election.

- The Commission indicates there will be costs for additional computers, network capabilities, and voter notification expenses, when combined with the requisite savings pursuant to the provisions of the bill, the one-time net increase in local expenditures relative to the August 2016 election is estimated to be \$52,000.
- An additional one-time decrease in local expenditures relative to the November 2016 election is estimated to be \$25,420.
- Given that the provisions of the bill would be implemented on the basis the pilot project is adopted by resolution by a super majority vote of the RCEC, any impact to local government (Rutherford County) is considered to occur as the result of a permissive action.
- The permissive and one-time net increase in local expenditures to Rutherford County is estimated to be \$26,580 (\$52,000 - \$25,420).
- Any responsibilities, including the required report, for the Division of Elections will be carried out within existing resources; any impact on state expenditures will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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