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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/04/13

SPONSOR HVEC LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 219/HVECS

SHORT TITLE Adequate Election Day Polling Place Staff SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Cerny

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Recurring	Election Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Secretary of State (SOS)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

The House Voters and Elections Committee Substitute for HB 219 would add a new section to the Election Code for Election Day polling places in primary and general elections. The new section would not apply to mail ballot precincts or consolidated precincts under 1-3-4 (voting convenience centers).

The new section B would require that each polling place covered would have at least one voting system to assist disabled voters and be in a location that is accessible and ADA compliant.

The new section C would require that each precinct polling place within a single polling place (building) would have a separate precinct board and signature roster, at least one optical scan tabulator, and sufficient space for at least five voters to simultaneously mark their ballots (i.e. voting booths).

The provisions of sections B and C could be waived by the SOS upon request from a county clerk.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SOS analysis states minimal fiscal impact.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

HB 219 would put into place requirements for specific resources in some Election Day polling places with the intention of assuring that voters do not experience delays when voting in primary and general elections.

Section 1-3-4 of the Election Code already covers such requirements for consolidated precincts.

With regard to Section B, which assures accessibility for disabled voters, Section 1-3-2 of the Election Code already requires that all polling places "provide individuals with physical mobility limitations an unobstructed access to at least one voting machine."

Further, under 1-9-5 of the Election Code the SOS is required to provide at least one voting system in each polling place. Voting systems include systems designed to mark ballots. The systems designed to mark ballots are the AutoMARK units for voters with disabilities and at least one such system is already provided to each polling location under current law.

**AMENDMENTS**

SOS recommends the addition of a provision in the Election Code that allows a period for voters or interested parties to appeal the County Commission's resolution outlining its plans for the upcoming general election. This would be one way to add a safeguard for the voters. If the county is not adequately preparing for poll workers, systems and equipment, the public would have an opportunity to correct any oversights.

CAC/blm