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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR SJC ORIGINAL DATE 3/15/15 HB _____
LAST UPDATED _____
SHORT TITLE Voter Registration Requirements SB 643/SJCS
ANALYST Jorgensen

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY15	FY16	FY17	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

The Senate Judiciary Committee substitute for Senate bill 643 requires the Secretary of State to begin allowing electronic updates to existing voter registration certificates by January 1, 2016, and requires the SOS to allow for electronic submission of new voter registration certificates by July 1, 2017.

Under SB 643CS, the information required for electronic voter registration will be the same as that required for paper-form voter registration. Additionally, electronic voter registration will require the person's full New Mexico driver's license number or state identification card number.

SB 643CS requires the SOS, in conjunction with the county clerks, to "adopt rules establishing a uniform and nondiscriminatory process to match the information contained in the voter registration election management system with the database" of MVD or the federal social security administration for electronic certificates of registration.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The fiscal impact associated with this legislation will likely be minimal. The SOS reports that once implemented, their new voter management system will be able to accommodate online registrations without the need for additional appropriations. There may be additional costs to the MVD, but these potential costs are unknown at this time as reflected in the estimated additional operating budget impact table above.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB 643CS provides for the advancement of online voter registration. The SOS believes that by providing the convenience of online voter registration, electors may be more likely to update their information. Also, the ability to check all registration records against the MVD and the federal social security administration will allow for the voter file to be more accurate and minimize duplicate registrations or typographical errors.

CJ/bb