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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR McKenna ORIGINAL DATE 02/10/21
LAST UPDATED 02/19/21 HB _____
SHORT TITLE Voting District Geographic Data SB 304/aSRC
ANALYST Nichols

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$20.0 - \$60.0			\$20.0 - \$60.0	Nonrecurring	Federal Grant

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Secretary of State (SOS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SRC Amendment

The Senate Rules Committee amendment for Senate Bill 304 makes the bill's provisions effective on January 1, 2022; clarifies that SOS will make available geographic information system data for every voting district in the state; and specifies GIS data must be provided in shapefile format or a comparable open source or convertible file format.

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 304 would require the Secretary of State (SOS) to collect and make publically available geographic information system (GIS) data for each voting district. SB304 directs SOS to make the information available on its website, free of charge, by January 1, 2022. SOS would be required to update GIS data if voting district boundaries changed.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB304 does not contain an appropriation. The agency estimates a cost of \$20 - \$60 thousand to contract with GIS professionals to gather existing GIS shape files or create files that do not

currently exist, as well as create a publically accessible map viewing tool. SOS anticipates that contract costs can be covered by an existing federal grant.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SOS does not currently possess the GIS data required by SB304. However, the agency expects that it would be able to meet the legislation deadline of January 1, 2022, with contractor support. SOS notes that is has already initiated a project to contract with GIS professionals to gather data, funded by a federal grant.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

SOS indicates that collecting and maintaining GIS data would centralize access to data that is currently maintained in different repositories throughout the state, and would facilitate election administration and redistricting efforts.

According to SOS, GIS data gathering and centralization as required by SB304 would be an important first step towards geo-enabling elections. Collecting GIS files would allow the office to visualize voting addresses in terms of relevant voting districts, providing a more accurate and efficient way to maintain voter rolls and ensure that voters are assigned to the appropriate districts.

AN/al