

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2009

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 272 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Defense of Marriage.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Forrester

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2009-10</u>	<u>FY 2010-11</u>	<u>FY 2011-12</u>	<u>FY 2012-13</u>	<u>FY 2013-14</u>
REVENUES	-	-	-	-	-
EXPENDITURES					
Secretary of State	Minimal Fiscal Impact*				
State Board of Elections	Minimal Fiscal Impact*				
County Boards of Elections	\$5,726,500				
<i>(*Note: see Assumptions and Methodology)</i>					
POSITIONS (cumulative):	N/A				
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: State Board of Elections, Secretary of State					
EFFECTIVE DATE: If amendment is approved, January 1, 2010					

BILL SUMMARY:

The proposed legislation enacts a new Section 6 to Article 14 of the North Carolina Constitution as the title indicates. The proposed legislation requires that the proposed amendment be submitted to the voters at a statewide election on November 3, 2009.

Source: Bill Digest S.B. 272 (02/23/0200).

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

According to the Secretary of State's office, the implementation of Senate Bill 272 will have a minimal fiscal impact. The Secretary of State estimates the impact to be less than \$1,000.

The only cost to the State Board of Elections outside of its normal budgeted duties would be for the District Election Technicians, Independent Statistician, State Board Canvass and any possible Hearings. Other variables could include labor at the precinct and one-stop absentee sites, contingent upon turnout and administrative hearings. The State Board of Elections estimates this cost to be minimal, because its current personnel would be able to provide these services in the course of their employment

According to the State Board of Elections, there will be 530 to 560 municipal elections scheduled for the November 2009 elections. The range varies due to the fact that some municipalities have the voting method of election and run-off *if* a candidate does not receive more than 50% of the vote. Municipalities are required by law to pay actual cost for their elections and thus would pay their proportional share. Current law requires counties to pay the difference. _As a result, it is estimated that county costs to hold a special November election will equal \$5,726,500 (see table below).

Ballot Coding	\$400,000
Election Ballots	1,000,000
Precinct Judges and assistants	1,575,000
Rental, Custodian, Utilities	100,000
District Election Technicians Aid	3,000
One-Stop Absentee	1,800,000
Legal Notices	400,000
County Training of Precinct Officials	250,000
County Absentee Meetings	50,000
SBE Canvass	3,000
Statistician	2,500
County Sample Audit	3,000
Support	125,000
Mailing/Absentee Ballots	15,000
Total:	\$5,726,500

SOURCES OF DATA: State Board of Elections, Secretary of State

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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DATE: May 1, 2009



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