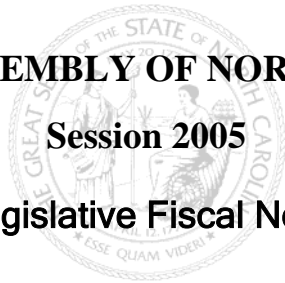


GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2005

Legislative Fiscal Note



BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1575 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Reimburse Counties for Out-of-Precinct Prov.

SPONSOR(S): Representative Folwell

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes ()	No ()	No Estimate Available (X)		
	<u>FY 2005-06</u>	<u>FY 2006-07</u>	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>
REVENUES					
EXPENDITURES					
POSITIONS (cumulative):					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & State Board of Elections; County Boards of Elections PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:					
EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill is effective when it becomes law and applies to all elections held after that date					

BILL SUMMARY:

This bill enacts new § 163-166.11 to Part 3 of Article 14A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes to require the State Board of Elections to reimburse each county for its cost in processing and counting out-of-precinct provisional ballots at the rate of ten dollars (\$10.00) per ballot. (Adopted from 5/2/2005 Bill Digest).

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

This bill would add a new statutory section that would require the State Board of Elections to reimburse each county for its cost in processing and counting out-of-precinct provisional ballots at the rate of \$10.00 per ballot. The State Board of Elections began collecting data on the number of out-of-precinct provisional ballots for the 2004 General Election. Because there is only one year of data, Fiscal Research does not have sufficient historical data on which to base an estimate of the number of out-of-precinct provisional ballots that may be cast in future elections. Therefore, we are unable to estimate the fiscal impact of this bill.

We note, however, that the State Board of Elections reported that the out-of-precinct provisional votes count for the 2004 General Election was 11,310. Thus, had the duty to reimburse been in place for the 2004 General Election, the reimbursement to the counties would have been \$113,100 (11,310 ballots * \$10/ballot). However, there are many factors that affect voter turnout and consequently, the number of out-of-precinct provisional ballots. These factors include the type of election, the timing of the election, the offices on the ballot, etc. Because of these factors, Fiscal Research cannot reasonably assume that the number of out-of-precinct provisional ballots in future elections will remain constant as compared to the number cast in the 2004 General Election.

SOURCES OF DATA: State Board of Elections

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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DATE: May 5, 2005

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