

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200
Hartford, CT 06106 ◊ (860) 240-0200
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

HB-5001

AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL AND
VARIOUS OTHER REFORMS TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF
ELECTIONS.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 4478

File Copy No.: 528

House Calendar No.: 348

OFA Fiscal Note

Cost

The amendment makes a variety of changes regarding absentee voting, including (1) requiring a photo identification to participate under certain circumstances; (2) requiring the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to provide a photo ID at no or prorated cost to applicable individuals; and (3) requiring state libraries to provide copies of photo ID for voting purposes. This results in the fiscal impacts outlined below.

The amendment requires, rather than allows, the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to waive the fee for any applicant for an identity card who does not have the means to pay such fee, including any applicant who is a resident of a homeless shelter or other facility for homeless persons or a certified homeless youth or certified homeless young adult. This will result in a revenue loss to the Special Transportation Fund beginning in FY 27.

Additionally, the amendment results in a cost of less than \$5,000 annually to the Connecticut State Library (CSL) and municipal libraries, and a potential cost to the Office of the Treasurer (OTT) annually beginning in FY 27. It requires any library in the state that is open to the public to make a photocopier available for anyone who has received an

Primary Analyst: TM
Contributing Analyst(s): DD, EMG, PM
Reviewer: JS

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absentee ballot to make a copy of their photo identification and allows such libraries to seek reimbursement from OTT.

The cost to CSL and municipal libraries will vary based on the amount of copies made but is estimated to be less than \$5,000 annually. Any cost to the OTT will depend on how many municipalities seek reimbursement and the total amount of reimbursement provided.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.