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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/20/07

SPONSOR Fox-Young LAST UPDATED _____ HB 627

SHORT TITLE Certain Ballots on Colored Paper SB _____

ANALYST Ortiz

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)
Secretary of State

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House bill 627 creates a new section of the Election Code that requires provisional and emergency paper ballots be printed on paper of different colors and a color different from other paper ballots.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Although there is no appropriation tied to this bill the Secretary of State offers that it would be very costly to implement this bill because it would require reprogramming all voting machines in the state and may require lessening the sensitivity of the optical readers. The cost of implementation could reach up to one million dollars.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

County Clerks would be responsible for inventorying identical ballots of different colors for each precinct in addition to all existing election responsibilities.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

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It is unclear whether persons who have color-blindness would be affected by this change.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

According to the AODA it is possible that it would likely make discrimination between different types of ballots easier for election officials.

EO/nt