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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Roybal Caballero **ORIGINAL DATE** 3/3/15
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** 496
SHORT TITLE 14-Day Voter Registration **SB** _____
ANALYST Jorgensen

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY15	FY16	FY17	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Secretary of State (SOS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 496 provides voter registration in person in the County Clerk's office 14 days prior to an election. Under current law, voter registration closes 28 days prior to an election. HB 496 allows voters to both register and vote in the county clerk's office until 14 days before the election.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact associated with enactment of this legislation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The SOS has noted several concerns with the legislation centering around extending the voter registration period so that it overlaps with the dates for commencing early voting. There is potential for duplicate voting if an individual casts a ballot in one county during the 28 day early voting period and then registers in a different county subsequently. Additionally, keeping the roster of eligible voters held by counties accurate and up-to-date may be more difficult under the provisions of this bill. Currently, the counties are able to generate the roster of eligible voters immediately after the close of the voter registration period 28 days before the election, and prior to the beginning of early voting. HB 496 would require counties to conduct early voting and

voter registration concurrently so that additional names could be added to the roster of eligible voters during the election which may cause confusion as individuals who registered after the beginning of early voting may not show up on the eligible voter roster immediately. Finally, because this bill allows for a voter to register and vote on the same day, it is possible that an individual who should have been disqualified from voting may have already cast a ballot prior to the rejection of the voter registration.

CONFLICT

Conflicts with HB 405, same day voter registration.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The SOS notes that Section 1-6-22 requires county commissioners to designate all-mail precincts and mail ballots 28 days prior to the election. If this section were not amended, individuals in all-mail precincts who registered within 28 days of the election would not receive a ballot by mail.

CJ/aml