

FISCAL NOTE

March 20, 2019

Bill No:	SB 48	Printer's No:	24	Sponsor:	Gordner (R)
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COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2018-19	2019-20
	First full year	
General Fund	\$223,047	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: SB 48 prohibits the commonwealth from disapproving of or decertifying voting apparatuses in 50 percent or more counties until certain requirements are met.

ANALYSIS: Requirements that must be met before decertifying voting apparatuses in 50 percent or more counties include:

- The Department of State must submit a written plan to the Senate and House of Representatives at least 180 days prior to the effective date of replacement containing the reason for the disapproval or decertification; estimated cost to replace and how funding will be obtained; and the effective date of the replacement.
- A commission established by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be established within 10 days of receipt of a plan, and within 90 days of establishment, shall review the plan; hold at least two public hearings on the matter; and issue a written report containing an estimated cost, written justification for disapproval or decertification, and recommended legislative action.

Currently, decertification of voting apparatuses is an administrative process within the Pennsylvania Department of State. Voting systems are certified by both the federal Election Assistance Commission and Pennsylvania Department of State according to security and accessibility standards.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Requirements	Costs (First full fiscal year)
Personnel:	\$180,922
Administrative Officer 2	
Attorney 3 (1/4 time)	
Infrastructure:	\$ 10,625
Computer, phone, and workstation	
Additional costs:	
Voting System Examiner Consultation	\$ 31,500
Total Cost	\$223,047

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The Department of State will incur costs associated with developing a decertification plan through detailed analysis of voting systems costs, interaction with executive department staff members, consultations with experts, developing, reviewing, vetting and publishing of the plan, and additional time commitments.

Additional workload would require 250 – 500 hours of work; the addition of an Administrative Officer 2 position in the program; ¼ time of an existing Attorney 3 due to temporary reassignment; and 100 – 200 hours for consultation with a voting system examiner.