



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 19-0865
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Danielson

Date: March 28, 2019
Bill Status: Senate SVMA
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Bill Topic: VOTING RIGHTS FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

- Summary of Fiscal Impact:
- State Revenue
- State Expenditure
- State Transfer
- TABOR Refund
- Local Government
- Statutory Public Entity

This bill requires the Department of State to establish procedures to enable voters with disabilities to mark a ballot using assistive technologies. The bill increases state expenditures in FY 2019-20 only.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2019-20, the bill requires a cash fund appropriation of \$50,000 to the Department of State.

Fiscal Note Status: This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 19-202

Table with 3 columns: Category, FY 2019-20, FY 2020-21. Rows include Revenue, Expenditure (Cash Funds), Transfer, and TABOR Refund.

## **Summary of Legislation**

This bill requires the Department of State to establish procedures to enable voters with disabilities to independently mark a paper ballot using nonvisual access or low vision access technology, whether the voter is voting in a mail ballot election or at a polling location.

## **State Expenditures**

This bill will increase cash fund expenditures in the Department of State by \$50,000 in FY 2019-20 only. These costs, paid from the Department of State Cash Fund, are for one-time computer programming costs to update the online ballot delivery software for voters who cast their ballot pursuant to the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA). Specifically, the department will add a module to this system that will allow persons with disabilities to cast ballots electronically in a way that meets the accessibility requirements of the bill. Currently, UOCAVA voters are the only Colorado voters who cast ballots electronically. This software is currently provided by a vendor and the Department estimates the cost to update the software is \$50,000.

## **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 2, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

## **State Appropriations**

For FY 2019-20, the bill requires an appropriation of \$50,000 from the Department of State Cash Fund to the Department of State.

## **State and Local Government Contacts**

County Clerks                      Secretary of State