

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS  
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING PRIMARY ELECTIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, RESTORING A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN COLORADO AND ALLOWING UNAFFILIATED VOTERS TO TEMPORARILY AFFILIATE WITH A POLITICAL PARTY IN ORDER TO VOTE IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS IN WHICH THE POLITICAL PARTY IS PARTICIPATING.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Moreno and Dore  
Senator Guzman

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**Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date**

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/27/16.

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| XXX | <b>No Change:</b> Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill                 |
|     | <b>Update:</b> Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>                   |
|     | <b>Update:</b> Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared  |
|     | <b>Non-Concurrence:</b> JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill |

The most recent LCS Revised Fiscal Note (Note) identifies a technical issue with the effective date of the bill. According to the Note, the Department of State will require an appropriation in FY 2016-17 to update and test the relevant IT systems so unaffiliated voters can declare a temporary affiliation with a major or minor political party to vote in a primary election. While the effective date of April 1, 2017, technically falls within FY 2016-17, the Department would not have enough time to fully expend the appropriated funds or complete the required updates in the three months between the effective date and the end of the fiscal year. To correct this issue and align with the LCS Revised Fiscal Note, JBC Staff included a provision in amendment **J.001** (described below) to appropriate any money unexpended in FY 2016-17 to the Department of State in FY 2017-18.

**Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee**

| Amendment | Description                            |
|-----------|--|
| J.001     | Staff-prepared appropriation amendment |

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriations clause.

**Description of Amendments in This Packet**

**J.001** Staff has prepared amendment **J.001** (attached) to add a provision appropriating a total of \$121,306 cash funds from the Department of State Cash Fund to the Department of State for

FY 2016-17. This provision also states that the appropriation is based on the assumption that the Department will require an additional 0.1 FTE and that any money not expended prior to July 1, 2017, is further appropriated to the Department for FY 2017-18.

**Points to Consider***TABOR/ Excess State Revenues Impact*

The Joint Budget Committee (JBC) has proposed a budget package for FY 2016-17 based on the March 2016 Legislative Council Staff revenue forecast. Based on the legislation that is included as part of the budget package, revenues are projected to be \$64.2 million lower than the threshold above which money will be required to be refunded under TABOR for FY 2016-17. This bill is not projected to increase cash fund revenues or trigger a TABOR refund for FY 2016-17.

*Future Fiscal Impact*

Although this bill would not require a General Fund appropriation for FY 2016-17, it is projected to require General Fund appropriations of \$5.1 million in FY 2020-21 for expenditures associated with the presidential primary.