



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 934

PRINTERS NO. 2166

PRIME SPONSOR: Metcalfe

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Motor License Fund	\$0	\$4,315,417
County Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Requires each voter to present proof of identification at every election. This bill would take effect on July 1, 2011 or immediately, whichever is later and would be applicable to elections held after January 1, 2012.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Election Code to require each voter to present proof of identification when he or she appears to vote at any election. "Proof of identification" shall mean a document that satisfies all of the following:

- In the case that an elector has a religious objection to being photographed, he or she shall be allowed to present a valid-without-photo driver's license or a valid-without-photo ID card issued by PennDOT
- Show the name of the individual, and the name on the document must conform to the name of the individual as it appears on the district register (aka voter rolls);
- Show a photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued;
- Include an expiration date. If the document has not yet expired it is acceptable under the bill. Additionally, if the document expired after the most recent general election it is acceptable; and
- Have been issued by the United States or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

This legislation would require the Secretary of the Commonwealth to prepare and disseminate information to the public regarding the proposed proof of identification requirements. PennDOT would also be required to issue a non-driver identification card, at no charge, to any voter who signs a statement declaring that he or she does not possess proof of identification and that he or she requires proof of identification for voting purposes.

The bill establishes an exception to the proof of identification requirement for any resident of a care facility that serves as the location of his or her polling place. The term "care facility" is defined as a long-term care nursing facility as defined in the Health Care Facilities Act or an assisted living residence as defined in the Public Welfare Code. This exception does not apply when the individual appears to vote in the election district for the first time.

The bill permits a voter who is unable to provide proof of identification to cast a provisional ballot if the voter is indigent and unable to obtain proof of identification without payment of a fee. A voter who casts a provisional ballot because he or she was unable to provide proof of identification on election day must appear at the county board of elections within six calendar days following the election to execute an affidavit and either provide proof of identification or affirm his or her indigence in order to have his or her provisional ballot counted.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse impact on the General Fund. The Department of State intends to utilize Help America Vote Act funds (federal funds) to fund the cost of the dissemination provision in calendar year 2012.

This legislation would have a fiscal cost to the Motor License Fund in the amount of \$4,315,417 in 2011-12 assuming that all registered voters without proper ID obtain a free, non-license photo ID from PennDOT. Data provided by PennDOT indicates that only 3.9% of the voting population does not hold a state-issued ID. Applying that number to all registered voters (8,166,393 as of Apr-11) to the cost to produce a photo ID (\$13.50) totals the \$4,315,417. Currently, 82.4% of the adult population in Pennsylvania are registered voters.

This legislation will have no adverse impact on county funds. The Department of State will handle the 2012 dissemination requirement and indicates that they are recommending that counties publish the new requirements in their required newspaper proclamations before every election, therefore creating no new additional costs to the counties.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 21, 2011

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.