

STORAGE NAME: h1739.frc
DATE: March 22, 2001

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY COUNCIL
ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1739
RELATING TO: Central Voter File
SPONSOR(S): Fiscal Responsibility Council and Representative Johnson

TIED BILL(S):

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COUNCIL(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY COUNCIL YEAS 21 NAYS 0
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
-

I. SUMMARY:

The bill eliminates the requirement of the Department of State, Division of Elections to contract with a private entity to compare information in the central voter file with available information in other computer databases, including criminal records and records of deceased persons. The Division's obligation to notify the County Supervisor of Elections about certain persons who may be deceased or ineligible to vote is limited to situations where the Division has identified the ineligibility based on data obtained from other Executive Branch offices.

The bill allows a \$900,000 reduction in recurring General Revenue in the Department of State, Division of Elections.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u> | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

The Department of State, Division of Elections currently contracts with a private entity to compare information in the central voter file with available information in other computer databases, including criminal records and records of deceased persons. The private entity attempts to check other informational databases nationwide. However, recent experience has highlighted problems in verifying the voter eligibility data collected by the private contractor.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill eliminates the requirement of the Department of State, Division of Elections to contract with a private entity to compare information in the central voter file with available information in other computer databases, including criminal records and records of deceased persons. The Division's obligation to notify the County Supervisor of Elections about certain persons who may be deceased or ineligible to vote is limited to situations in which the Division has identified the ineligibility based on data obtained from other Executive Branch offices.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

See Effect of Proposed Changes.

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

N/A

2. Expenditures:

The bill allows a \$900,000 reduction in recurring General Revenue in the Department of State, Division of Elections.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

The bill does not reduce the authority of counties or municipalities to raise revenues in the aggregate.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

V. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

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VII. SIGNATURES:

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY COUNCIL:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

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