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[HF 2610](#) – Elections, Voting, Ballots, and Candidates (LSB6288HV.1)  
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Fiscal Note Version – As amended and passed by the House

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### **Description**

[House File 2610](#) relates to duties of the office of the Secretary of State (SOS). The Bill is organized in seven divisions.

### **Divisions with No Fiscal Impact**

**Division I** — Allows the SOS to accept an address confidentiality program participant’s shelter name and other contact information. This Division also allows the SOS to hold a participant’s mail for up to 30 days and to cancel certification if the participant dies. This Division takes effect upon enactment.

**Division II** — Exempts a candidate for federal office from signing a disqualifying statement affirming that the candidate has not been convicted of a felony or other infamous crimes and limits objections. This Division takes effect upon enactment.

**Division III** — Prohibits the use of rank choice voting or instant runoff voting for elections. This Division takes effect January 1, 2025.

**Division IV** — Eliminates the use of drop boxes and updates the contents of an absentee ballot. This Division also changes the required timelines for mailing and returning an absentee ballot. This Division takes effect January 1, 2025.

**Division V** — Prohibits a person standing for election to occupy a voting booth with a voter. This Division takes effect January 1, 2025.

**Division VII** — Repeals Iowa Code section [347.9\(5\)](#) where in the term length for persons elected to a county hospital board of trustees in a county with a population of at least 400,000 was established to be six years. This Division takes effect January 1, 2025.

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### **Division VI — Voter Registration Database Pilot Program**

#### **Description**

**Division VI** creates a Voter Registration Database Verification Pilot Program. This Division requires the State registrar of voters to contract with a third-party vendor to develop or provide a program to verify ineligible voters on an ongoing basis. This Division requires the SOS, during the first quarter of 2025, to use the developed or acquired program to forward the results of the analysis of the voter registration file to each county commissioner of registration prior to the date reports are required to be submitted pursuant to Iowa Code section [48A.40](#). This Division also requires the State registrar of voters to evaluate the efficacy and costs of the Pilot Program as compared to the current method of maintaining the statewide voter registration database. The Program is repealed December 31, 2027.

#### **Background**

Currently, Iowa Code section [47.7](#) allows the State registrar to contract with a third-party vendor to develop or provide a program to verify the status of records in the statewide voter registration file. As of February 2024, there are approximately 2.2 million registered voters in the State of Iowa.

**Assumptions**

- The SOS estimates vendor costs to develop a voter registration database that will be compared against the current method to be between \$0.05 and \$0.15 per voter. The vendor costs are estimated to be between \$110,000 and \$331,000.
- Additional vendor and staff time to develop and make the comparison file is estimated to be approximately \$25,000.

**Fiscal Impact**

The fiscal impact of **Division VI** is estimated to increase expenditures for the SOS by approximately \$135,000 and \$356,000 for each year of the two-year Pilot Program.

**Sources**

Secretary of State  
Legislative Services Agency

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/s/ Jennifer Acton

March 19, 2024

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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