



END OF SESSION — HF 516 — SECRETARY OF STATE ELECTION INTEGRITY

Description: [House File 516](#) relates to the conduct and administration of elections. The Bill includes changes to voter registration, absentee voting, voter identity verification, signature verification, polling place prohibitions, State Commissioner of Elections duties and certifications, voter misconduct information and reporting, straight party voting, the voting age at primary elections, candidate filing deadlines, and post-election audits. The Bill also creates an Electronic Poll Book and Polling Place Technology Revolving Loan Fund under the control of the Secretary of State's Office to be used to loan money, at no interest, to county commissioners to purchase e-poll books or to update e-poll books and polling place technology.

The Bill requires the Secretary of State's Office to initially provide a voter identification card to an active registered voter who does not have an Iowa driver's license or an Iowa nonoperator's ID card. The county commissioners are required to provide voter identification cards to registered voters on an ongoing basis. The division of the Bill related to voter identity verification is contingent upon appropriations by the General Assembly being sufficient to cover the costs of providing voter identification cards.

Fiscal Impact: The estimated cost to the Secretary of State's Office for FY 2018 ranges between \$200,000 and \$555,000, and the cost for FY 2019 is estimated to be approximately \$189,000. The provision implementing the voter identification card requirement is contingent upon an appropriation from the General Assembly. Certain provisions of the Bill may result in increased costs to counties; however, specific cost information cannot be determined at this time. [House File 640](#) (FY 2018 Administration and Regulation Appropriations Bill) included an increase to the FY 2018 General Fund appropriation to the Secretary of State's Office for administration and elections totaling \$700,000. [Senate File 516](#) (FY 2018 Standing Appropriations Bill) includes language stating that the General Assembly declares that the appropriation to the Secretary of State's Office in HF 640 is sufficient for the implementation of the voter identification card requirements.

Enactment Date: The Bill was approved by the General Assembly on April 13, 2017, and is currently awaiting approval in the Governor's office.

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