



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 411

February Session, 2014

House Bill No. 5492

House of Representatives, April 7, 2014

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. JUTILA of the 37th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR THE USE OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT FOR CONDUCTING AUDITS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any provision
2 of title 9 of the general statutes, the Secretary of the State, in
3 consultation and coordination with The University of Connecticut,
4 may authorize, as a demonstration project, the use of electronic
5 equipment for the purpose of conducting any audit required pursuant
6 to section 9-320f of the general statutes for any primary and general
7 election held in 2014 in at least three towns, provided (1) (A) the
8 legislative body of any such town or, in the case of a town in which the
9 legislative body is a town meeting, the board of selectmen, and (B) the
10 registrars of voters for the town approve the use of such equipment,
11 and (2) the Secretary prescribes specifications for the (A) testing, set-up
12 and operation of the equipment, and (B) training of election officials in
13 the use of the equipment.

14 (b) Not later than February 1, 2015, the Secretary shall submit, in
 15 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
 16 a report and recommendations for implementation, if any, of audit
 17 procedures demonstrated through the project pursuant to subsection
 18 (a) of this section, to the joint standing committee of the General
 19 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections.

20 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed as precluding any
 21 candidate or elector from seeking additional remedies pursuant to
 22 chapter 149 of the general statutes as a result of any information
 23 obtained pursuant to an audit required and held pursuant to this
 24 section and section 9-320f of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 15 \$	FY 16 \$
Secretary of the State; UConn	GF - Cost	Less than 50,000 combined	None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 15 \$	FY 16 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Savings	Less than 10,000 per municipality	None

Explanation

The bill establishes a demonstration project, in three or more towns, for the use of electronic equipment during the statutorily required audit of votes recorded for the 2014 election cycle.

The bill is anticipated to result in a cost to both the Secretary of the State and the University of Connecticut as the demonstration project will require the participation of both entities during the auditing process in each of the selected towns. The cost would be dependent upon the number of towns included in the demonstration project as well as the procedures developed to guide the audit itself but is not anticipated to exceed \$50,000 in total. As the demonstration project will use equipment funded by a federal grant, neither agency is anticipated to incur additional costs for equipment.

Participant municipalities may realize a savings from the bill as a result of not performing manual audits. The savings associated with

potentially not performing manual audits is not anticipated to be greater than \$10,000 per municipality.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5492

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SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 7 Nay 5 (03/19/2014)