



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 57

January Session, 2015

House Bill No. 6745

House of Representatives, March 12, 2015

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 ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILINGS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The State Elections Enforcement
2 Commission may establish, within available appropriations, a pilot
3 program to provide assistance to the town clerks of not more than
4 twenty municipalities with the completion of some or all of their filing
5 repository duties under section 9-603 of the general statutes. If the
6 commission establishes said pilot program:

7 (1) The commission shall (A) establish an application procedure for
8 the program and criteria for the selection of municipalities, and (B)
9 provide assistance to the town clerks of selected municipalities in
10 accordance with this section on such terms and in such manner as the
11 commission prescribes.

12 (2) (A) A town clerk may apply, if so directed by vote of the
13 municipality's legislative body, to participate in the program, and (B)

14 each municipality selected to participate in the program shall
15 implement a plan designed by the commission to transfer some or all
16 of such clerk's filing repository duties to the commission.

17 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of section 9-623
18 of the general statutes, the commission may waive any late filing fee
19 described in said subsection for any candidate or treasurer in a
20 municipality that is participating in the pilot program.

21 (4) Said pilot program shall terminate on April 6, 2018.

22 (b) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall conduct a
23 study, within available appropriations, of the efficiency of transferring
24 to the commission from the offices of participating clerks of
25 municipalities some or all of the filing repository duties under section
26 9-603 of the general statutes pursuant to the pilot program under
27 subsection (a) of this section. The study shall include an analysis of the:
28 (1) Cost to municipalities of maintaining the filing repository function,
29 including, but not limited to, costs associated with personnel,
30 equipment, software, hardware and server space; and (2) capacity of
31 the offices of participating clerks of municipalities to assist with
32 centralized filing repository duties, including, but not limited to, the
33 availability of personnel and equipment. Not later than February 2,
34 2019, the commission shall report its findings and any
35 recommendations for legislation to make permanent the pilot program
36 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with the
37 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
38 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
39 relating to elections.

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: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which enables a temporary pilot program under which the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) assists up to 20 municipalities with retaining required election-related documentation, has no fiscal impact.

The pilot program administered by the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact due to the existing capacity of both agency infrastructure and personnel. From an infrastructure and systems standpoint, the eCRIS system utilized by candidates for General Assembly and Statewide office has capacity to accept and store municipal filings for the pilot program without hardware expansion or software upgrades, and the associated costs. In addition, the timing of municipal election cycles, relative to General Assembly and Statewide election cycles, is such that the municipal elections fall in a period of lesser workload for SEEC staff.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6745

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL
CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILINGS.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 15 Nay 0 (02/25/2015)