



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 376

February Session, 2016

Substitute Senate Bill No. 252

Senate, March 31, 2016

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. CASSANO, S. of the 4th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING POST-ELECTION AUDIT INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-320f of the 2016 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

4 (a) Not earlier than the fifteenth day after any election or primary
5 and not later than two business days before the canvass of votes by the
6 Secretary of the State, Treasurer and Comptroller, for any federal or
7 state election or primary, or by the town clerk for any municipal
8 election or primary, the registrars of voters shall conduct a manual
9 audit or, for an election or primary held on or after January 1, 2016, an
10 electronic audit authorized under section 9-320g of the votes recorded
11 in not less than [ten] five per cent of the voting districts in the state,
12 district or municipality, whichever is applicable. Such manual or
13 electronic audit shall be noticed in advance and be open to public

14 observation. Any election official who participates in the
15 administration and conduct of an audit pursuant to this section shall
16 be compensated by the municipality at the standard rate of pay
17 established by such municipality for elections or primaries, as the case
18 may be.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	9-320f(a)

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 17 \$	FY 18 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Savings	Less than 10,000 each	Less than 10,000 each

Explanation

The bill limits the number of districts that can be audited in a municipality during a primary or election. To the extent that this reduces the number of audits a municipality could undergo, such municipality would realize savings anticipated to be less than \$10,000 for each election or primary.

The Out Years

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

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 252*****AN ACT CONCERNING POST-ELECTION AUDIT INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY.*****SUMMARY:**

The law requires registrars of voters to audit the state's voting districts, selected through a random drawing, after a federal, state, or municipal regular election or primary. This bill reduces, from 10% to 5%, the minimum percentage of voting districts in the state, municipality, or district, whichever applies, that must be audited.

By law, the following offices are subject to the audit in the selected districts:

1. in a presidential or gubernatorial election, all offices required to be audited by federal law, plus one additional office selected in a random drawing by the secretary of the state, but in no case fewer than three offices;
2. in a municipal election, three offices or 20% of the offices on the ballot, whichever is greater, selected at random by the town clerk; and
3. in a primary election, all offices required to be audited by federal law, plus one additional office, if any, but at least 20% of the offices on the ballot, selected at random by the town clerk (CGS § 9-320f(b)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 15 Nay 0 (03/11/2016)