



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill #	SB 220.01	Title:	Generally revise election laws and procedures
Primary Sponsor:	Jonathan Windy Boy	Status:	As Introduced

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget        | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

### FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029</u> <u>Difference</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	Unable to determine	Unable to determine	Unable to determine
<b>Revenue:</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Impact-General Fund Balance:</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Description of fiscal impact:** SB 220 proposes a variety of changes to election laws related to satellite offices, precinct polling places on Indian Reservations, and voter identification. This proposed legislation also revises the existing use of nontraditional addresses for voter registration.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### Assumptions:

#### **Department of Justice**

1. The Department of Justice has no fiscal impact as a result of SB 220.

#### **Secretary of State's Office**

2. While the state voter registration system already accommodates the use of nontraditional addresses for voter registration, as drafted, the bill allows for use of nontraditional addresses for voter registration in a way that prevents the identification of precinct splits (see Technical Note).
3. The Office of the Secretary of State is unable to determine the fiscal impact of system changes necessary to implement the bill. If required, these costs will be significant.
4. Form and administrative rules changes may be necessary, but those costs would be absorbed within the Office of the Secretary of State's existing operational budget.

5. This bill requires the Office of the Secretary of State to notify each federally recognized tribal government in Montana. While there may be a minimal fiscal impact, the office will absorb the costs associated with implementing this bill within its existing operating budget.

**Effect on County or Other Local Revenues or Expenditures**

**Montana Association of Counties**

1. For 18 counties, there will be operational costs plus at least one place of deposit for two weeks which is estimated to cost between \$964,404 and \$1,284,804. This estimate does not include required equipment at several places, or mileage to and from the place of deposit, all of which are unknown but will increase the cost.
2. For those requiring equipment, the estimated “OTO” equipment cost is \$17,800 per site. Fiscal impacts assume 10 of 18 sites will require equipment in first year, but that is unknown.
3. Counties without a viable location, that cannot meet security and ADA requirements, may increase costs further to bring buildings into compliance. This cost is unknown.
4. Assuming accurate costs for places of deposit is not possible at this time. Pursuant to the bill, the tribal government designates the location, so the mileage cost is unknown.

**Technical Notes:**

1. As drafted, SB 220 allows for use of nontraditional addresses for voter registration in a way that prevents the identification of precinct splits. This precinct split identification is necessary for the Office of the Secretary of State's system to be able to issue a proper ballot.

NO SPONSOR SIGNATURE 2/10

Sponsor's Initials

Date

Budget Director's Initials

Date