



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill #	SB 562	Title:	Require top two primary for certain offices
Primary Sponsor:	Josh Kassmier	Status:	As Introduced

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact     | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2  | <input 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 |

### Expenditures:

General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other - Proprietary Fund	Unable to Determine	\$0	Unable to Determine	\$0

### Revenue:

General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other - Proprietary Fund	\$1,392	\$0	\$0	\$0

Net Impact-General Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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**Description of fiscal impact:** SB 562 proposes revisions to laws related to elections in Montana and increases the filing fee for U.S. Senate candidates.

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### Assumptions:

#### Secretary of State's Office

- Based on the 2024 primary election, it is assumed that eight U.S. Senate Candidates will file with the Office of the Secretary of State in FY 2026.
- SB 562 increases the candidate filing fee for U.S. Senate candidates by 0.1% of the total annual salary of a U.S. Senator. The annual salary is assumed to be \$174,000. It is assumed the Office of the Secretary will collect \$1,392 in additional candidate filing fee revenue in FY 2026. [ $\$174,000 \text{ salary} \times 1\% \text{ current percentage} = \$1,740 \text{ candidate filing fee}$ ] [ $\$174,000 \text{ salary} \times 1.1\% \text{ proposed percentage} = \$1,914 \text{ candidate filing fee}$ ] [ $\$1,914 \text{ proposed fee} - \$1,740 \text{ current fee} = \$174 \text{ fee difference}$ ] [ $\$174 \text{ fee difference} \times 8 \text{ candidates} = \$1,392 \text{ additional candidate filing fee revenue}$ ]
- The MT voter registration and election management system may incur system development costs in FY 2026 to adjust ballot style generation and update the U.S. Senate candidate filing fee schedule. The Office of the Secretary of State is unable to determine the fiscal impact.

4. There may also be a fiscal impact for processes related to proofing of ballots, administrative rulemaking, and outreach in FY 2026 and FY 2028. The Office of the Secretary of State is unable to determine the fiscal impact.

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
<b><u>Fiscal Impact:</u></b>				
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b><u>Expenditures:</u></b>				
Personal Services	Unable to Determine	\$0	Unable to Determine	\$0
Operating Expenses	Unable to Determine	\$0	Unable to Determine	\$0
<b>TOTAL Expenditures</b>	<u>Unable to Determine</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>Unable to Determine</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b><u>Funding of Expenditures:</u></b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other - Proprietary Fund	Unable to Determine	\$0	Unable to Determine	\$0
<b>TOTAL Funding of Exp.</b>	<u>Unable to Determine</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>Unable to Determine</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other - Proprietary Fund	\$1,392	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>	<u>\$1,392</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b><u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u></b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other - Proprietary Fund	Unable to Determine	\$0	Unable to Determine	\$0

NO SPONSOR SIGNATURE

Sponsor's Initials

Date

Budget Director's Initials

Date