



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: SB0298.01: Revise duties of the secretary of state

Primary Sponsor: Theresa Manzella Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☐ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact
☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☒ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
Expenditures				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenues				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Description of fiscal impact

SB 298 proposes to provide the Office of the Secretary of State supervisory powers over county election administrators. Without a definition of "supervisory powers," however, the office is unable to determine the fiscal impact of the proposed legislation.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Secretary of State's Office

- Without a definition of "supervisory powers," the Office of the Secretary of State is unable to determine the fiscal impact of this proposed legislation (See Technical Concerns).

Effect on County or Other Local Revenues or Expenditures

Montana Association of Counties

- There is no fiscal impact from SB 298 since it is assumed the reports that may be required will come from readily available data in the election administrators' offices.

Technical Concerns

- Without a definition of "supervisory powers," the Office of the Secretary of State is unable to determine the fiscal impact of the proposed changes under SB 298. Potential considerations include whether the supervisory power extends to the employment relationship and related decision-making, legal liability for county election administrator actions, and coordination with current supervisory authorities.

NO SPONSOR SIGNATURE

2/21

Sponsor's Initials

Date



Budget Director's Initials

2/20/2025

Date