Questions about what we mean by administrative impact (AI)?

* Are we talking about effect on people operating elections? Or also the bureaucracy that is a bit more removed still count. For example, if a law affected workers at the DMV in regards to elections, would we want to think of this law as having high administrative impact?
* How should we treat large bills? Large bills that have high administrative impact .
* I think it will be good to talk about other similar projects have operationalized the impact of other effects of bills using texts. I would like to read through some this week.
* As well, I need to read through some machine learning stuff to think about next steps. I am not sure what methodology is best for categorizing administrative impact. Three methods come to mind. One has training set be straight forward classification into high impact and low impact where randomly sample all bills. I understand this method and we should be able to apply it. Other approach is to treat some laws as being exemplars of high impact and low impact bills. Then we utilize some process (this is where I need to learn more) to sort the remaining bills for their likeness to these ideal types. Another method would be to utilize the topics done by the VLC before utilizing either of the two methods (or somehow in combination with them). Perhaps conceptually, it makes sense to talk about administrative impact being high or low only within topic. So for example, early voting could be the topic. Then we could define high administrative impact within early voting legislation to mean that early voting is extended or expanded in some way. Maybe you could think of it early voting as being expanded as actually decreasing AI because it may ease issues on election day. But I think this issue kind of underscores a main issue we have here. We need to define what exactly we mean by administrative impact. Because the concept is so vague (and maybe it needs to be so to some extent), Machine learning and us, will have trouble classifying rules. Perhaps doing it by topic can bring clarity for us and better classification for ML.
* Related issue to last point is that some bills may be more say unrelated to administrative impact than being “low” in it. What do we make of bills that are focused on election funding?
* Will classification be ordinal, scalar, binary?

**Laws with high administrative impact by state**

MN S 2381:

**VLC Summary: Relates to elections, modifies provisions related to elections and election administration, relates to absentee voting, ballots, voting, and school board vacancies, provides an alternative meeting location for presidential electors, authorizes an alternative method for submitting in-person absentee ballots, provides for election emergency preparedness and response.**

Why: This bill would likely add a substantial administrative burden to election officials, particularly because it mandates multilingual ballots and interpreters, which would require coordination, additional resources, and training. Furthermore, the regulations on intimidation and deceptive practices would likely involve new oversight mechanisms and compliance checks, complicating enforcement for election officials.

NE L 514

**Summary: Provides for valid photographic identification for voting purpose, provides for verification of citizenship of registered voters, provides procedures for a voter with a reasonable impediment or a religious objection to being photographed, changes provisions relating to voting and counting ballots, provides for free state identification cards and certified copies of birth records for voting purposes as prescribed, changes provisions relating to issuance of a state identification card.**

Why: This bill would add significant administrative complexity for election officials. Implementing voter ID laws typically involves ensuring that voters have proper identification, managing procedures for those who lack identification, and processing the issuance of state IDs. Verifying citizenship and managing objections to photographs would further complicate these processes, especially in terms of verifying eligibility and preventing disenfranchisement.

NM H 4

Summary

**Relates to crime of intimidation to include acts against election officials and employees and agents of the secretary of state, county clerks and municipal clerks.**

This bill would likely create new protections for election officials and employees, but it also introduces new enforcement responsibilities. Election officials would need to work closely with law enforcement to report incidents of intimidation and ensure their compliance with the new legal provisions. This could increase administrative complexity, especially if incidents of intimidation rise.

* I bring this one in not because it likely has highest administrative impact but because it is interesting in that it brings up a conceptual issue. Do we think of laws which are meant to ease the lives of election officials as increasing administrative burden?

NY S 1102

**Amends the Election Law, relates to early voting, provides that beginning the tenth day prior to any election and ending on, and including, the second day prior to the election, a person duly registered and eligible to vote shall be permitted to vote.**

Early voting typically increases the administrative burden on election officials because it requires the setup, staffing, and management of polling places for an extended period. This includes ensuring adequate personnel, managing voter rolls in real-time to prevent duplicate voting, and maintaining the security and integrity of ballots cast before election day. This extended period of voting would also require resources to accommodate early voters, adding complexity to what is usually a one-day process. Election officials may need to handle logistical challenges, including tracking and securing ballots for a longer period, which could increase the likelihood of errors or fraud, further complicating the administrative workload.

OH S 63

**Summary: Creates an online voter registration system, requires the Secretary of State to review the related database to identify registrants who are not United States citizens, to modify the procedures for maintaining the Statewide voter registration database, to amend the requirements for the certification of voting equipment, and to clarify the circumstances under which a political party may appoint a person to fill a vacancy in certain elective offices.**

Why: This bill introduces multiple significant changes: establishing an online voter registration system, reviewing databases to identify non-citizens, modifying statewide voter registration procedures, and updating voting equipment certification requirements. These tasks would require election officials to implement new technology, manage and secure voter data, ensure the integrity of registration rolls, and coordinate updates to voting machines, adding substantial logistical and technical challenges. The continuous need to verify citizenship and maintain updated equipment further compounds the administrative burden over time.

PA S 422

**Amends the State Election Code, provides for county boards of election, provides for powers and duties of county boards, provides for forms of ballot, printing ballots and numbers, provides for election day procedures and conduct of primaries and elections, provides for manner of applying to vote, sets forth emergency provisions for the 2020 General Primary Election in response to the coronavirus pandemic.**

None stick out too much for me. Most are unrelated to AI in my mind. But if I have to choose, this bill would likely have the highest administrative burden because it impacts multiple fundamental aspects of the election process. It affects ballot printing, election day procedures, and voter application processes.

TX H 1421

**Relates to cybersecurity of voter registration lists and other election-related documents, systems, and technology, provides that the Secretary of State shall adopt rules defining classes of protected election data and establishing best practices for identifying and reducing risk to the electronic use, storage, and transmission of election data and the security of election systems.**

This bill involves critical aspects of election security, data management, and technology, requiring election officials to adopt and implement cybersecurity measures across multiple facets of the election process. Establishing rules for protecting election data, combined with ensuring secure transmission and storage, will require substantial investment in technology, training, and ongoing oversight. This creates long-term challenges for election officials, as cybersecurity is an evolving field with persistent risks, making it difficult to maintain compliance and mitigate threats. The need for regular updates to security protocols adds to the administrative workload, as officials would be responsible for maintaining secure systems and responding to potential breaches or vulnerabilities.