



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2025 Biennium

Bill information:

HB0172 - Revise laws related to post-election audits (Bedey, David)

Status: As Introduced

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

FISCAL SUMMARY

| | <u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u> |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Expenditures: | | | | |
| General Fund | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| General Fund | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Net Impact-General Fund Balance: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Description of fiscal impact: This bill allows county commissioners to request a random-sample audit of vote-counting machines after a non-federal election. County commissioners can also request the addition of a countywide race to the random-sample audit of vote-counting machines after a federal election. Although there may be a minimal cost to the state for training and administrative rule making related to this legislation, these expenses can be absorbed by the Office of the Secretary of State.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

Office of the Secretary of State

- While there may be a minimal fiscal impact related to training and administrative rulemaking related to this legislation, the Office of the Secretary of State can absorb these costs within the office's existing operating budget.

Effect on County or Other Local Revenues or Expenditures:

Montana Association of Counties

- The fiscal impact from HB 172 is not quantifiable based on the variability in county election costs. This bill allows for a county recount at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners, so the cost will be evaluated by the board as needed.

Sponsor's Initials

1/10/2023

Date

Budget Director's Initials

1-10-23

Date