

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 444
Version:	INT
Request No.:	1729
Author:	Sen. Jech
Date:	01/19/2019

Bill Analysis

SB 444 modifies personnel for and the procedure of elections. The measure stipulates that each precinct within each county shall have at least three precinct officials: an inspector, a judge and a clerk. One official must be a member of the political party with the most registered voters in the state and another member must be a member of the second largest political party within the state. The secretary of the county election board is required to maintain a list of precinct officials in his or her county. The Secretary of the State Election Board is authorized to prescribe the duties, training, and appointment procedures of the precinct officials.

The measure also allows the Secretary to authorize additional precinct officials as needed by each county. Compensation and reimbursement for these officials is increased. The secretary of the county election board may remove employees at will with written notice. Additionally, the measure authorizes the appointment of a student in the eleventh or twelfth grade who is at least sixteen years of age. Employees of the state or county may be granted administrative leave to serve as a precinct official. The measure increases the amount paid to those who attend training sessions related to becoming a precinct official from \$25.00 to \$35.00.

Changes to precinct boundaries will require the approval of the county election board. Such changes must be presented in a public meeting of the board. The secretary of the county election board is empowered to determine the location of polling places within the county by the measure. The secretary must receive permission to locate a polling place outside of the geographical confines of a precinct from the State Election Board.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor

Fiscal Analysis

FY'20 Impact: \$80,000 (No Fiscal Impact to state revenues)

For SB 444, the State Election Board notes that the increase in pay for poll workers will have an impact of \$80,000, but the Election Board intends to use an increase in revenue from filing fees within their existing budget to cover the impact.

Prepared by: State Election Board