

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

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| Bill No.: | SB481 |
| Version: | ENGR |
| Request Number: | |
| Author: | Rep. Boatman |
| Date: | 4/4/2023 |
| Impact: | \$0 |

Research Analysis

SB481 provides that using an electronic communication device to knowingly make personal information of an election officer public with a result that places that individual in reasonable fear of death or serious bodily injury will be guilty of a misdemeanor. The measure provides a definition of *election official*. The Secretary of the State Election Board is authorized to keep information on individuals of certain classes confidential of which the measure adds the secretary, assistant secretary, employees, and members of a county election board or the State Election Board to these classes. Any person who, directly or indirectly, threatens or intimidates any election official with the intent to improperly influence an election will be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable of a fine up to \$1,000 or be imprisonment in the county jail for up to six months, or both. This same punishment will also be given to any person who falsely impersonates an election official and performs any of their duties with the intent to improperly influence an election. The measure adds that any person who intentionally damages or attempts to damage any part of an election related system will be deemed guilty of a felony.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach

Fiscal Analysis

This measure provides punishments for using an electronic device to knowingly make available the personal information of an election officer in a way that results in that individual being placed in reasonable fear of death or serious bodily injury. In its current form, SB481 is not anticipated to have an impact on state budget or appropriations.

Prepared By: Robert Flipping IV, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.