BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 1151
Version: Introduced
Request Number: 10074
Author: Rep. Banning
Date: 2/11/2025

Impact:

SEB: NTE \$300,400.00 Per Statewide Election NTE \$265,000.00 One-Time

Research Analysis

HB 1151, as introduced, aligns public school board elections with the November general election and June primary election dates already established in law.

Prepared By: Emily Byrne

Fiscal Analysis

HB 1151 modifies Oklahoma school district election dates and board member terms, shifting school elections from annually in April and February to biennially in June and November of even-numbered years. After communication with the State Election Board (SEB), additional precinct officials may be necessary for implementation of the measure to reduce the risk of human error. Approximately 1,150 out 1,984 total precincts statewide are split by two or more school districts or school board district lines. However, the exact number of split precincts often changes (i.e., 1,152 in the year 2024). Issuance of the school board ballots with the general election ballots may lead to longer lines and wait times with emphasis on split precincts.

School districts remain responsible for paying the cost of ballot production in accordance with county election board contracts. On the one hand, general election ballots are larger and more numerous than what school districts used prior, which would likely result in an increased ballot production cost to school districts. On the other hand, school districts would not be held responsible for the cost of precinct officials and certain other election-related expenses as they were for stand-alone school elections.

Per the SEB, one additional precinct official in each split precinct is likely necessary to reduce error and line length on Election Day, which would cost up to \$230,000 per statewide election. One additional Absentee Voting Board member in each of the 88 early voting sites is likely necessary to reduce error and line length during early voting, which would cost approximately \$70,400 per statewide election. Further, training and training materials for 7,300 election officials would require a one-time cost of up to \$265,000. Note that all associated costs are listed as "Not to Exceed" (NTE) values, which means that such costs represent the maximum fiscal impact anticipated for a range of possible values.

Prepared By: Zach Lein, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.
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