

HOUSE BILL 784

Introduced by O'Keefe, et al.

2/12	Introduced
2/12	Referred to State Government
2/13	First Reading
2/13	Fiscal Note Requested
2/18	Fiscal Note Received
2/19	Hearing
2/19	Fiscal Note Printed
2/19	Committee Report--Bill Passed
2/22	Placed on Consent Calendar
2/23	Objection to Consent Calendar (Placed on 2nd Reading)
2/25	2nd Reading Passed as Amended
2/25	Taken From Engrossing and Rereferred to Appropriations
3/08	Hearing
3/23	Tabled in Committee

1 *House* BILL NO. *784*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Ruff Thomas*
 3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE SECRETARY
 5 OF STATE TO COMPILE AND MAINTAIN A LIST OF ALL REGISTERED
 6 ELECTORS IN THE STATE; TRANSFERRING RESPONSIBILITY FOR
 7 MAILING THE VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET FOR BALLOT ISSUES
 8 FROM THE COUNTY OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION
 9 TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE; AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF
 10 STATE TO USE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS OF THE REGISTERED
 11 ELECTORS ON THE LIST; AMENDING SECTIONS 13-2-114, 13-2-115,
 12 AND 13-27-410, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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 14 STATEMENT OF INTENT

15 A statement of intent is required for this bill because
 16 [section 4] authorizes the secretary of state to adopt rules
 17 prescribing the date for the submission of a list of
 18 electors for special elections. The legislature intends that
 19 in adopting rules applicable to delivery of the lists before
 20 special elections, the secretary of state require the
 21 submission of the lists at times as near as practicable to
 22 the times specified in the bill for general elections.

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 24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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 2 registration form for each elector shall be assigned a
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 4 numbering that best accommodates the filing system and list
 5 preparation method used. The election administrator may
 6 adopt the use of the elector's social security number as the
 7 registration number. If social security numbers are used,
 8 they may be provided to the secretary of state to be
 9 included on the list of electors required by [section 4] but
 10 they may not be printed on lists of registered voters by the
 11 election administrator or by the secretary of state or be
 12 released as public information.

13 (2) If social security numbers are used as the
 14 registration number, the election administrator may assign
 15 an alternative number for any elector who does not have a
 16 social security number or who declines to provide the
 17 number. A system of assigning alternative numbers shall be
 18 developed in consultation with the secretary of state.

19 (3) Upon receipt by the election administrator of a
 20 properly completed registration card, the registration of
 21 the elector is complete and the election administrator shall
 22 assign a registration number."

23 **Section 2.** Section 13-2-115, MCA, is amended to read:

24 "13-2-115. Registration lists to be prepared. (1)
 25 Immediately after registration is closed, the election



-2-
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 2 registered electors in each precinct. Names of electors
 3 shall be listed alphabetically, with their residence address
 4 or mailing address if located where street numbers are not
 5 used. A preliminary list of registered electors may be
 6 printed before the close of registration for an election. If
 7 a preliminary list is printed, a supplementary list must be
 8 printed after the close of registration.

9 (2) A copy of the list of registered voters shall ~~shall~~ must
 10 be displayed at the polling place. Extra copies of the lists
 11 shall must be retained by the election administrator and
 12 furnished to an elector upon request.

13 (3) The list of registered electors prepared for a
 14 primary election may be used for the general election if a
 15 supplemental list giving the additions and deletions since
 16 the primary list was prepared is printed. The election
 17 administrator may prepare lists for a special election, but
 18 lists are not required to be printed for special elections.

19 (4) Lists of registered voters need not be printed if
 20 the election will not be held.

21 (5) The election administrator shall forward a list of
 22 all registered electors in the county to the secretary of
 23 state as provided in [section 4]. The secretary of state
 24 shall use the lists submitted by the election administrators
 25 to compile and maintain a list of all registered electors in

1 the state. Upon written request, the secretary of state
 2 shall furnish to any elector for noncommercial use a current
 3 list of registered electors or mailing labels for registered
 4 electors. Upon delivery, the secretary of state shall
 5 collect a charge not to exceed the actual cost of compiling
 6 and maintaining the list and of reproducing the list or
 7 mailing labels."

8 **Section 3.** Section 13-27-410, MCA, is amended to read:

9 "13-27-410. Printing and distribution of voter
 10 information pamphlet. (1) The secretary of state shall
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 13 pamphlet for all ballot issues to be submitted to the people
 14 at least 90 days before the election at which they the
 15 issues will be submitted. The requisition shall must include
 16 a delivery list providing for shipment of the required
 17 number of pamphlets to each county and to the secretary of
 18 state.

19 (2) The secretary of state shall estimate the number of
 20 copies necessary to furnish one copy to every voter in each
 21 county the state, except that two or more voters with the
 22 same mailing address and the same last name may be counted
 23 as one voter. The secretary of state shall provide for an
 24 extra supply of the pamphlets in determining the number of
 25 voter pamphlets to be ordered in the requisition.

1 (3) The department of administration shall call for
 2 bids and contract with the lowest bidder for the printing
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8 (4) The ~~county---official---responsible---for---voter~~
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 15 received from the printer.

16 (5) Ten Five copies of the voter information pamphlet
 17 shall must be available at each precinct polling place for
 18 use by any voter wishing to read the explanatory information
 19 and complete text before voting on the ballot issues.

20 (6) At the request of the county election
 21 administrator, the secretary of state shall provide the
 22 requested number of additional copies of the voter
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 24 for distribution to the public."

25 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Election administrator to

1 provide list of electors to secretary of state. (1) The
 2 election administrator in each county shall provide to the
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 4 county by precinct. The list must include the following
 5 information for each elector:

6 (a) name;

7 (b) mailing address;

8 (c) precinct number; and

9 (d) registration number assigned by the county election
 10 administrator pursuant to 13-2-114.

11 (2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), the
 12 list provided pursuant to subsection (1) must be a paper
 13 copy.

14 (b) If the county election administrator maintains the
 15 information in some other form, such as on a computer disk
 16 or tape, and the secretary of state requests the information
 17 in that form, the county election administrator may provide
 18 the list in a form other than a paper copy.

19 (3) In odd-numbered years, the list of electors
 20 required by subsection (1) must be delivered to the
 21 secretary of state by December 15.

22 (4) In even-numbered years, the list of electors
 23 required by subsection (1) must be delivered to the
 24 secretary of state:

25 (a) no later than July 1 and if the county has:

1 (i) more than 5,000 electors, the list must include any
2 changes made up to and including the June primary; or

3 (ii) 5,000 or fewer electors, the list may include
4 information through the close of registration prior to the
5 June primary.

6 (b) 30 days prior to the close of the registration
7 before the general election; and

8 (c) no later than 10 days following the close of
9 registration for a general election. Each election
10 administrator shall provide the secretary of state with a
11 supplemental list of electors, giving the additions and
12 changes made between the time the previous list was compiled
13 and the close of registration.

14 (5) The secretary of state may prescribe by rule the
15 date for the submission of the list of electors if a special
16 election requires the collection of the list at a time and
17 in a manner not identified in this section.

18 NEW SECTION. **Section 5.** Effective date. [This act] is
19 effective July 1, 1991.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB0784, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act requiring the Secretary of State to compile and maintain a list of all registered electors in the state and transferring responsibility for mailing the voter information pamphlet from county officials to the Secretary of State.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Voter information pamphlets (V.I.P.) will be published at 1990 levels (360,000 copies).
2. Bulk postage rate will be \$.127 cents per ounce (each piece is 2 ounces).
3. Publication of V.I.P. will take place in 1992 General Election cycle; no special elections are planned.
4. Registration data will be compiled by the Secretary of State by electronic computer transfer and electronic scanning of printed registration lists.
5. Purchase of equipment and hiring of staff to take place in FY92 to allow for a smooth transition.
6. Custom programming will take place in FY92 and will cost \$5,000 in contracted services.
7. 0.50 FTE will need to be added to staff of the Record Management Program to administer the program (Grade 8, Step 2).
8. Secretary of State will sell only statewide and multi-county lists. The price for the statewide list would be \$10,000.
9. Current law is represented by the executive budget recommendation for the Records Management Program in the Secretary of State's Office.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Secretary of State-Records Management

	FY 92			FY 93		
	Current Law	Proposed Law	Difference	Current Law	Proposed Law	Difference
<u>Expenditures:</u>						
FTE	22.50	23.00	0.50	22.50	23.00	.50
Personal Services	533,000	542,400	9,400	532,100	541,900	9,800
Operating Expenses	391,400	396,400	5,000	440,200	529,140	88,940
Equipment	9,100	23,307	14,207	10,900	10,900	0
Total	933,500	962,107	28,607	983,200	1,081,940	98,740
<u>Funding:</u>						
General Fund (01)	933,500	962,107	28,607	983,200	1,081,940	98,740
<u>Revenue:</u>						
Sale of Voter Lists (01)	0	0	0	0	20,000	20,000
Impact to General Fund			(28,607)			(78,740)

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

Cost savings to counties will occur by the elimination of the requirement for payment of mailing of the voter information pamphlet. The savings should be in the range of \$100,000 in FY93.

Rod Sundsted 2-16-91
 ROD SUNDSTED BUDGET DIRECTOR DATE
 Office of Budget and Program Planning

Mark O'Keefe 2/19/91
 MARK O'KEEFE, PRIMARY SPONSOR DATE
 Fiscal Note for HB0784 as introduced **HB 784**

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

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2 INTRODUCED BY Rep. Thomas
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SECOND READING
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(5) ~~Ten~~ Five copies of the voter information pamphlet shall must be available at each precinct polling place for use by any voter wishing to read the explanatory information and complete text before voting on the ballot issues.

(6) At the request of the county election administrator, the secretary of state shall provide the requested number of additional copies of the voter information pamphlet to the county election administrator for distribution to the public."

NEW SECTION. **Section 4.** Election administrator to

provide list of electors to secretary of state. (1) The election administrator in each county shall provide to the secretary of state a list of all registered electors in the county by precinct. The list must include the following information for each elector:

(a) name;

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(d) registration number assigned by the county election administrator pursuant to 13-2-114.

(2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), the list provided pursuant to subsection (1) must be a paper copy.

(b) If the county election administrator maintains the information in some other form, such as on a computer disk or tape, and the secretary of state requests the information in that form, the county election administrator may provide the list in a form other than a paper copy.

(3) In odd-numbered years, the list of electors required by subsection (1) must be delivered to the secretary of state by December 15.

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(a) no later than July 1 and if the county has:

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2 changes made up to and including the June primary; or

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4 information through the close of registration prior to the
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