

1 H BILL NO. 506  
 2 INTRODUCED BY Hamilton Cary Lynch  
 3 Country Muller Lincoln W. Barth

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
 5 VOLUNTARY INDICATION OF PARTY PREFERENCE ON REGISTRY CARDS."  
 6

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

8 Section 1. Optional party preference selection on  
 9 registry cards. (1) Registry cards, whether used for  
 10 registration in person or by mail, shall contain a section  
 11 substantially as follows:

- 12 OPTIONAL INFORMATION  
 13 Party Preference:  
 14 Republican Party  
 15 Democratic Party  
 16 Other \_\_\_\_\_

17 The secretary of state shall prescribe the form to be used  
 18 on the registry card to carry out the provisions of this  
 19 subsection.

20 (2) The party preference information called for in  
 21 subsection (1) is entirely voluntary. The secretary of state  
 22 shall inform all persons entitled to register electors of  
 23 the voluntary nature of the information, and they in turn  
 24 shall inform any elector being registered. The secretary of  
 25 state shall prepare and distribute to the registrars

1 guidelines for appropriate printed material, either on the  
 2 registry card or separate, to inform electors registering by  
 3 mail of the voluntary nature of the information.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 225-77

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received January 26, 19 77, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 506 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.

Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

Provides for the voluntary indication of party preference on registry cards.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Counties would use their present supply of cards while available.
2. The Secretary of State would supply the new forms to the counties which would distribute them to the deputy registrars.
3. The cost of printing and mailing notices to the counties is 10 cents each.
4. 7,000 notices would be needed each fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY 78</u>	<u>FY 79</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Increased operating expenses due to proposed legislation	<u>\$700</u>	<u>\$700</u>	<u>\$1,400</u>

TECHNICAL NOTE:

The Secretary of State suggests that the bill should probably be amended to require the persons entitled to register electors be informed about the voluntary nature of information about party preference when they are instructed in registration procedures rather than requiring the Secretary of State to notify each of them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 BUDGET DIRECTOR  
 Office of Budget and Program Planning  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Committee  
on State Administration

HOUSE BILL NO. 506

INTRODUCED BY HARRINGTON, COONEY,

LYNCH, COURTNEY, MULAR, QUILICI, W. BAETH

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
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Section 1. Optional party preference selection on  
registry cards. (1) Registry cards, whether used for  
registration in person or by mail, shall contain a section  
substantially as follows:

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Party Preference:

Republican Party

Democratic Party

Other \_\_\_\_\_

The secretary of state shall prescribe the form to be used  
on the registry card to carry out the provisions of this  
subsection.

(2) The party preference information called for in  
subsection (1) is entirely voluntary. ~~The secretary of state  
shall inform all persons entitled to register electors of  
the voluntary nature of the information, and they in turn  
shall inform any elector being registered.~~ THE SECRETARY OF

~~STATE SHALL INFORM COUNTY REGISTRARS THAT PARTY PREFERENCE  
INFORMATION MAY NOT BE REQUIRED OF ELECTORS REGISTERING TO  
VOTE. COUNTY REGISTRARS IN TURN SHALL INSTRUCT OR INFORM ALL  
OTHER PERSONS IN THE COUNTY ENTITLED TO REGISTER ELECTORS OF  
THE VOLUNTARY NATURE OF THE INFORMATION. ALL PERSONS  
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The secretary of state shall prepare and distribute to the  
registrars guidelines for appropriate printed material,  
either on the registry card or separate, to inform electors  
registering by mail of the voluntary nature of the  
information.

-End-

SECOND READING

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 506  
 2 INTRODUCED BY HARRINGTON, COONEY,  
 3 LYNCH, COURTNEY, MULAR, QUILICI, W. BAETH  
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-End-