

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 55th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 1298
Version:	Committee Substitute
Request Number:	6660
Author:	Rep. Wesselhoft
Date:	2/11/2015
Impact:	Potential Minimal Costs for Election Bd.

Research Analysis

Please see previous summary of this measure.

Prepared By: Marcia Goff

Fiscal Analysis

The committee sub for HB 1298 removes language limiting contests of candidacy to events where only one candidate files for office; removing this language would enable contests of candidacy regardless of the number of candidates. This change could result in a larger number of contests of candidacy being filed, resulting in longer or multi-day contest hearings, and potentially staff overtime costs for the State Election Board and/or county election boards. However, the pcs also provides for an increase in the cost to file such petitions from \$250 to \$500, which might minimize the number of contests. This fee is refunded to the petitioner if the case is successful. The Election Board is currently researching the petition success rate to more accurately determine potential costs.

Prepared By: Nicole McPhetridge

Other Considerations

None.