

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 56th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 1564
Version:	Introduced
Request Number:	6422
Author:	Representative Echols
Date:	2/14/2017
Impact:	\$0 Immediate; Potential Costs Associated with Filing Increases, Temporary Increased Staffing, Filing Fee Revenue Reduction

Research Analysis

HB 1564, as introduced, modifies the number of signatures required on a petition to support a candidate's filing for office. The existing signature requirement of 4% of the registered voters eligible to vote for a candidate in the first election wherein the candidate's name could appear on the ballot is changed to:

- 1,500 registered voters for candidates for Governor;
- 1,000 registered voters for candidates for U.S. Senator;
- 750 registered voters for candidates for U.S. Congress;
- 500 registered voters for candidates for Lieutenant Governor, Corporation Commission, Attorney General, State Auditor and Inspector, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Treasurer, Insurance Commissioner and Commissioner of Labor;
- 200 registered voters for all other elected offices.

Prepared By: Marcia Goff

Fiscal Analysis

Provisions of the measure could result in an increase in the number of candidate filings by petition. Costs associated with this increase could be realized based on the following variables: 1) with a lower threshold of signatures required to file by petition, candidates will not have to pay fees that the State Election Board may have otherwise received; 2) the State Election Board would require additional temporary staff to count signatures on ballots submitted during the filing period, which could cost up to a few thousand dollars; and 3) increasing the number of candidates by petition could also result in contests of candidacy, thus delaying ballot creation and printing.

Prepared By: Nicole McPhetridge

Other Considerations

None.

