

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB444
Version:	CCR A
Request Number:	
Author:	Wright
Date:	5/16/2019
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

CCR A to SB 444 provides for a single election board framework for all counties, eliminating the distinction between counties with more than 17,500 registered voters and those with fewer. The secretary of a county election board is authorized to employ an assistant secretary as needed. The position of chief clerk is eliminated.

Precinct election boards would be eliminated and replaced by three officials per precinct: a judge, a clerk, and an inspector. One must be from the largest political party in the state and one from the second-largest. These officials are to be appointed by the secretary of the county election board, and must be registered voters within the county. The secretary is required to utilize a list of nominees for these positions from the county central committees of the two parties when making the appointments, if provided with one. If those on the list are unable, unwilling or ineligible to serve, the appointments may be made from the ranks of the party within the county. The secretary is also required to maintain a current, public list of all precinct officials and absentee voting board members. A high school student in grades 11 or 12 who is at least 16 years of age may be appointed as a precinct official.

The measure requires additional precinct officials to be authorized by the Secretary of the State Election Board. Pay for precinct officials is increased for future elections, and inspectors are allowed mileage reimbursement for certain election-related travel.

SB 444 further requires proposed changes to precinct boundaries to be presented at a public meeting and approved by the county election board. The bill permits a polling place to be located outside the boundaries of a precinct, subject to rules and procedures established by the State Election Board.

Prepared By: Sean Webster

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

Other Considerations

None.

