

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB3321
Version:	FA2
Request Number:	11137
Author:	Rep. Miller
Date:	3/21/2022
Impact:	Unknown negative fiscal impact (see analysis below)

Research Analysis

FA2 for HB3321 requires ballots used in any election to be printed on paper, provided there is a method for a blind or visually impaired voter to case a ballot, in a manner determined by the Secretary of the State Election Board. The measure also prohibits using watchers via electronic devices and prohibits devices or equipment used by the State Election Board or a county election board to count or tabulate ballots from connecting to the Internet. This does not prohibit a secure network connection between the State Election Board and the county election board to transmit or receive voter registration or election-related data. The measure also includes distributing an absentee ballot application or request to a voter with official letterhead under the definition of "absentee ballot harvesting." The Secretary of the State Election Board or any county election board who has documents that appear to be evidence of voter registration or voting crimes shall notify the Office of the Attorney General in addition to the county district attorney. Last, the measure requires that a new unitary integrated voting system that is implement on or after Jan. 1, 2023, will be required to report the official election returns of each election by precinct, including all votes cast in person and absentee.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach

Fiscal Analysis

Upon review and with consultation from the State Election Board, passage of HB 3321 in its current form may have a fiscal impact. A "small" additional expenditure would be needed to reprogram current software to implement the provisions of the measure. Further, County Election Boards may incur additional costs to implement the provisions of the measure. The amount of these additional costs is unknown at this time.

Prepared By: Nathan Shugart

Other Considerations

None.