FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Requires Secretary of State to establish process to allow electors to request voting materials in language other than English by filling out registration card or updating registration on electronic voter registration website.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Secretary of State (SOS)

Analysis:

House Bill 2872 directs the Secretary of State (SOS) to develop, by rule, a process for allowing electors to request voting materials in a language other than English by filling out a registration card or updating the elector's registration website. The bill specifies the definition of voting materials.

The Secretary of State estimates the total cost of establishing a process for electors to request voting materials in other languages to be approximately \$26,000 General Fund for the 2015-17 biennium. This amount includes \$20,000 to add a field in the Oregon Centralized Voter Registration System (OCVR) to record the language of preference for each voter, plus \$5,000 to update the online voter registration system, and \$1,000 to modify and printing voter registration cards to record the language preference.

Note that the bill does not require SOS to provide voting materials in other languages. Therefore, this fiscal impact does not include the cost of actually providing voting materials in other languages, only the cost of establishing a process for electors to request voting materials in other languages.

The measure should be referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its impact on the Secretary of State's General Fund budget.