

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE
ASSEMBLY, No. 208
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

DATED: FEBRUARY 23, 2022

SUMMARY

Synopsis: Raises pay for election workers to \$300 per day; appropriates \$7,000,000 to Department of State.

Type of Impact: Expenditure increase to the State General Fund.

Agencies Affected: Division of Elections, Department of State.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Cost Increase	Approximately \$7,042,565		

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that increasing the State’s reimbursement of the payment to election workers by \$100 per day will increase costs to the Division of Elections in the Department of State by approximately \$7.04 million per election depending on the number of hours the poll workers actually work on Election Day and the type of election (i.e. primary, general, or special election).

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill increases the compensation of election workers from \$200 per day to \$300 per day. Under current law, election workers are paid \$200 per day each time the primary election, the general election, or any special election is held. The State reimburses \$125 of the \$200 payment to election workers while the counties account for the remaining \$75. This bill increases the State’s reimbursement from \$125 per day to \$225 per day while keeping the counties’ sum at \$75. The bill also increases from \$14.29 to \$19.64 the maximum hourly rate that district board members may receive for serving at a school election.

This bill also allows a county to compensate election workers for attending the training program required to serve as an election worker. The counties would determine the amount, if any, and the compensation would be an expense of the county. The bill appropriates \$7 million to the Department of State to reimburse the counties for the costs of the bill.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS estimates that increasing the State’s reimbursement of the payment to election workers by \$100 per day will increase costs to the Division of Elections in the Department of State by approximately \$7.04 million per election depending on the number of hours the poll workers actually work on Election Day and the type of election (i.e. primary, general, or special election). This increase will bring the costs for early voting and election day poll workers from approximately \$18.24 million to \$25.28 million per election.

Section: *State Government*

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 Associate Research Analyst

Approved: *Thomas Koenig*
 Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).