



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

INITIAL FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Date: December 31, 2019

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LCS TITLE: ELECTION DAY AS A STATE HOLIDAY

Disclaimer. *This initial fiscal impact statement has been prepared for the Title Board. If the initiative is placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff may revise this estimate for the ballot information booklet (Blue Book) if new information becomes available.*

Summary of Measure

This measure creates a new state public holiday called "Democracy Day," which occurs every year on Election Day (the Tuesday following the first Monday in November). The measure also requires public buildings that are used as voter service and polling centers to remain open on that day.

Background

The Department of Personnel and Administration data estimates that the state spends about \$9.3 million per day on employee salaries.

State Expenditures

To the extent state agencies are required to pay overtime to employees that must come to work on a state holiday, state expenditures will increase to cover overtime pay. Since this cost is dependent on future staffing levels in departments, this fiscal impact statement does not provide an estimate of overtime costs.

Local Government Impact

If local governments choose to observe "Democracy Day," expenditures will increase. Because counties also administer elections, certain county employees must work on Election Day. Whether these employees get overtime pay or an additional day off will vary by county.

Economic Impact

By creating a new state holiday for state employees, and to the extent that private employers also choose to give their employees an extra holiday, economic activity may shift. However, the measure's economic impact is anticipated to be minimal.

Effective Date

If approved by voters at the 2020 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

State and Local Government Contacts

All State Agencies

County Clerks

Abstract of Initiative 105: ELECTION DAY AS A STATE HOLIDAY

The abstract includes estimates of the fiscal impact of the proposed initiative. If this initiative is to be placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff will prepare new estimates as part of a fiscal impact statement, which includes an abstract of that information. All fiscal impact statements are available at www.ColoradoBlueBook.com and the abstract will be included in the ballot information booklet that is prepared for the initiative.

This initial fiscal estimate, prepared by the nonpartisan Director of Research of the Legislative Council as of December 31, 2019, identifies the following impacts:

State expenditures. If state agencies require employees to work on the state holiday, state expenditures will increase to cover overtime pay.

Local government impact. If local governments choose to observe the new holiday, expenditures will increase.

Economic impacts. By creating a new state holiday for state employees, and to the extent that private employers also choose to give their employees an extra holiday, economic activity may shift. However, the measure's economic impact is anticipated to be minimal.