

**LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 13-0710

Date: February 21, 2013

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Murray

Bill Status: House SVMA

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY TO PAY THE EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH HOLDING A PRIMARY ELECTION IN WHICH THERE ARE NO CONTESTED RACES INVOLVING THE POLITICAL PARTY ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: August 7, 2013, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 8, 2013, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: None required.		
Local Government Impact: Potential cost savings. See Local Government Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires political parties to pay the cost of conducting primary elections if there are no contested races for any political party. In addition, the bill eliminates the ability of election officials to cancel the primary elections in such circumstances. A party's costs are based on the proportionate share of total expenses incurred by the county to prepare for and conduct the primary election. Under current law, counties pay the expenses of conducting primary elections and if there are no contested races for any political party, the primary election may be cancelled.

Local Government Impact

The bill increases costs and revenue to counties in the event that there are no contested primary races by requiring that the primary election be held and that political parties to pay the costs of conducting the election. In large Front Range counties, total primary election costs can be more than \$230,000; for small counties, primary election costs can be between \$10,000 and \$30,000. In the event that uncontested primaries occur, these expenses would be paid by the political parties in that county.

Departments Contacted

State

Counties