

**Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB234

Patron: Pope Adams

Bill Title: Elections; general provisions; electoral board members to wear identification; civil penalty.

Bill Summary: Requires the Department of Elections to issue a standardized identification badge to the acting electoral board members of each locality. Electoral board members are required to wear such identification badge while conducting their official duties on the day of an election subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: Item 77

Explanation: See below

Fiscal Summary: There is an anticipated fiscal impact to the Department of Elections (ELECT) as a result of the provisions of this bill.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
Department of Elections		\$5,454	\$2,954	\$2,954	-	-
TOTAL		\$5,454	\$2,954	\$2,954	-	-

Fiscal Analysis: This bill mandates that the Department of Elections (ELECT) provides a free standardized identification badge to electoral board members of each locality. Electoral board members will be required to wear such identification while conducting their official duties on the day of an election subject to a civil penalty. ELECT must supply each electoral board member (399) with an identification badge in the most cost-effective manner. ELECT will review processing the badges with internal staff or as a contract. Based on the retail cost of the equipment, ELECT estimates that the cost will be \$2,500 (one time) for an ID card printer, printer supplies \$650 (Ribbion/Blank Badge/holder), and Postage (courier service) \$2,304. ELECT will also explore contracting out the service with other state agencies or an outside vendor. The current estimated contract retail cost to produce each identification card is \$15.99 less postage. Using 459 as the annual number of identification cards needed the cost to the Department of Elections would be \$7,339 annually. Elections assume a replacement rate of fifteen percent for changes in boards and card replacement. While these retail cost estimates are the best available at this time, ELECT anticipates that the actual costs for a contract will likely be lower.

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Other: N/A