

HF1800 - 0 - Voting Admin. Provisions Modified

Chief Author: **Duane Quam**
 Committee: **Elections Finance And Government Operations**
 Date Completed: **3/14/2025 3:39:28 PM**
 Lead Agency: **Secretary of State**
 Other Agencies:
 Corrections Dept Public Defense Board
 Sentencing Guidelines Supreme Court
 Comm

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology	X	
Local Fiscal Impact	X	

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)		Biennium		Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Secretary of State		-	-	-	-
General Fund		-	-	-	-
State Total					
General Fund		-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-	-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium		Biennium	
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Secretary of State		-	-	-	-
General Fund		-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-

Lead LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Chloe Burns **Date:** 3/14/2025 3:39:28 PM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Secretary of State		-	-	-	-	-
General Fund		-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Secretary of State		-	-	-	-	-
General Fund						
Expenditures		-	11	4	4	4
Absorbed Costs		-	(11)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Secretary of State		-	-	-	-	-
General Fund		-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

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Chief Author: **Duane Quam**
 Committee: **Elections Finance And Government Operations**
 Date Completed: **3/14/2025 3:39:28 PM**
 Agency: **Secretary of State**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology	X	
Local Fiscal Impact	X	

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Dollars in Thousands					
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Chloe Burns **Date:** 3/14/2025 3:38:36 PM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund		-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
General Fund						
Expenditures		-	11	4	4	4
Absorbed Costs		-	(11)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
General Fund						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

As relevant to the fiscal note:

- Lines 2.16 through 2.24 require the Secretary of State to prepare a form containing the identity of individuals who sign proof of residence forms.
- Lines 2.27 through 2.32 require the Secretary of State to publish guidance for residential facilities and their employees on the vouching process.
- Lines 3.26 through 4.7 require the Secretary of State to update the master list consistent with the Help America Vote Verification system and remove ineligible persons from the list and provide updates to counties on a regular basis. The Secretary of State traditionally does not remove ineligible persons from the list (county auditors do), so the Secretary of State assumes that it would need to program a queue so counties could review and make the appropriate modifications.
- Lines 4.22 through 4.29 require the Secretary of State to review reports submitted by the state court administrator with regard to individuals who identify themselves as noncitizens during jury selection and remove such individuals from the statewide voter registration system.
- Lines 4.31 through 5.6 prohibit counties from requiring the use of electronic rosters for municipal and school district elections.
- Lines 6.22 through 6.27 require that absentee ballot boards be subject to party balance requirements with regard to the appointment of judges and certain duties performed by election judges.
- Lines 9.10 through 9.25 require the Secretary of State to provide guidance in combined polling places on the procedures necessary to ensure voters receive the correct ballot.
- Lines 11.12 through 11.22 require the Secretary of State forward requests for additional election judges to the major political parties if there are not sufficient number of judges from that party available and willing to serve as election judges.
- Lines 12.6 through 12.17 require the Secretary of State to transmit detailed instructions regarding Minnesota's election laws to county auditors and municipal clerks. The Secretary of State provides this guidance already and so assumes that little expense will be necessary to comply with the law.

10. Lines 12.20 through 12.23 require the Secretary of State to maintain a dedicated telephone line for use by election judges on each election day.

11. Lines 15.29 through 16.3 require the Secretary of State to ensure that if unofficial results are posted on its website, the website must be able to identify precincts in which vote totals change and a notation explaining the reason for discrepancy and how the votes were changed.

Lines 18.7 through 18.34 require county canvassing boards to conduct post-election reviews of additional precincts located in towns, cities, or school boards if requested by that entity's governing body and require that the review cover all offices and questions on the ballot unless uncontested.

Assumptions

As relevant to the fiscal note:

1. Lines 2.16 through 2.24 The Secretary of State assumes this will require two hours of election administration time.
2. Lines 2.27 through 2.32 The Secretary of State assumes this will require two hours of election administration time.
3. Lines 3.26 through 4.7 The Secretary of State assumes this will require approximately 15 hours of programming time to make the appropriate modifications to the statewide voter registration system.
4. Lines 4.22 through 4.29 The Secretary of State assumes this will require approximately 10 hours of programming, and testing, time.
5. Lines 4.31 through 5.6 The Secretary of State assumes this will cause counties with electronic rosters to incur significant costs if they are forced to duplicate their work to provide electronic and paper rosters. Additionally, it may require counties to hire additional staff to complete data entry of paper rosters to assign voter history and paper voter registration applications. It will also require counties to have duplicative systems in place to alert election judges to absentee ballots accepted on election day.
6. Lines 6.22 through 6.27 The Secretary of State assumes this will cause appointing authorities for absentee ballot boards to incur costs necessary to recruit more members in order to meet party balance requirements.
7. Lines 9.10 through 9.25 The Secretary of State assumes this will require 2 hours of election administration time. The Secretary of State further notes the scope of this is limited to combined polling places, though there are other polling places that have multiple ballots.
8. Lines 11.12 through 11.22 The Secretary of State assumes this will require 3 hours of election administration time.
10. Lines 12.20 through 12.23 The Secretary of State assumes this will require it to have two election administrators available for each uniform election day each year.
11. Lines 15.29 through 16.3 The Secretary of State assumes this will require 40 hours of programming and testing costs to make these changes to its website.
12. Lines 18.7 through 18.34 The Secretary of State assumes this will results in substantial expenses to county canvassing boards, who will now be responsible for reviewing dozens of races across multiple ballots.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

FY 26

89 hours of Secretary of State Election Administration staff time to: (1) update proof of residency forms; (2) create guidance on the vouching process for residential facilities; (3) create guidance to combined polling places to ensure voters receive the proper ballot; and (4) staff an election judge telephone line on uniform election days.

$$\$48.15 \times 89 = \$4,285.35.$$

65 hours of election development time to (1) program the master list so that it can be updated consistent with the Help America Vote Verification System; (2) update the statewide voter registration system to allow for the removal individuals who indicate they are noncitizens during jury selection; (3) make changes to the unofficial results page of its website so that that the information required by the bill can be reported if there are modifications.

$\$105 \times 65 = \$6,825$

Total: \$11,110.35

Ongoing Costs (subsequent fiscal years)

83 hours of Election administration staff time in subsequent fiscal years to (1) forward requests to major political parties for additional election judges; (2) staff an election judge telephone line on uniform election days.

$\$48.15 \times 83 = \$3,996.45$

Total: \$3,996.45

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Any additional costs to implement the requirements of this bill (such as updating any guidance or maintain the updates to the statewide voter registration system and Secretary of State website) would be ongoing and contingent on the Secretary of State and local election administrators receiving additional funds to implement.

Local Fiscal Impact

Local governments will incur substantial costs associated with maintaining electronic and paper rosters, recruiting additional election judges to meet party balance requirements, and conduct the required post-election reviews. In particular, county canvassing boards would likely need to hire several more election judges to complete the expanded post-election reviews.

References/Sources

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Agency Contact: Adam Hansen (651-201-6870)

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Adam Hansen

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HF1800 - 0 - Voting Admin. Provisions Modified

Chief Author: **Duane Quam**
 Committee: **Elections Finance And Government Operations**
 Date Completed: **3/14/2025 3:39:28 PM**
 Agency: **Corrections Dept**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium			Biennium	
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Susan Nelson **Date:** 3/14/2025 8:16:26 AM
Phone: 651-296-6054 **Email:** susan.nelson@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

This bill makes various modifications to voting and voting administration provisions in multiple sections of state statute.

Assumptions

The Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission (MSGC) projects a negligible fiscal impact to state correctional resources as a result of this legislation.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

N/A

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

N/A

Local Fiscal Impact

MSGC projects a negligible fiscal impact to local correctional resources as a result of this legislation.

References/Sources

Department of Corrections staff

MSGC

Agency Contact:

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Mark Besonen

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HF1800 - 0 - Voting Admin. Provisions Modified

Chief Author: **Duane Quam**
 Committee: **Elections Finance And Government Operations**
 Date Completed: **3/14/2025 3:39:28 PM**
 Agency: **Public Defense Board**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium			Biennium	
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Susan Nelson **Date:** 3/14/2025 8:12:53 AM
Phone: 651-296-6054 **Email:** susan.nelson@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-

Bill Description

The bill provides a misdemeanor penalty if a candidate for office or a person who signs an affidavit regarding residency of a candidate for office makes a false statement on the affidavit.

Assumptions

There are not enough cases to impact workloads or caseloads.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula**Long-Term Fiscal Considerations****Local Fiscal Impact****References/Sources****Agency Contact:**

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Kevin Kajer

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HF1800 - 0 - Voting Admin. Provisions Modified

Chief Author: **Duane Quam**
 Committee: **Elections Finance And Government Operations**
 Date Completed: **3/14/2025 3:39:28 PM**
 Agency: **Sentencing Guidelines Comm**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium			Biennium	
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Susan Nelson **Date:** 3/14/2025 8:14:42 AM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

The bill modifies Chapter 13, to make the party affiliation of election judges classified as public data; and voting administration sections including candidate filing, registration, vouching, election judges, polling places, ballots, postelection review; requires reporting; and creates two new felony crimes: destruction or disposal of voted ballots before the end of the retention period by an election official under newly codified Minn. Stat. § 204B.40(c); and unauthorized access to preliminary vote totals under amended Minn. Stat. § 206.845, subd. 2.

The bill repeals Minn. Stat. § 204B.21, subd. 3.

Language related to affidavits of candidacy is effective the day following final enactment and applies to affidavits of candidacy submitted during filing periods beginning on or after that date.

The effective date for the new felonies is not specified.

Assumptions

It is assumed that the new felony offenses are effective August 1, 2025, and apply to crimes committed on or after that date.

No statutory maximums are specified for the new felonies created, therefore, it is assumed that the default felony maximum penalty of five-years imprisonment, a \$10,000 fine, or both, per Minn. Stat. § 609.03(1) apply.

One of the responsibilities of the Commission is to assign severity-level (SL) rankings to new felony offenses passed by the Legislature. The Commission bases its decisions, in part, on level of harm and culpability. The statutory maximum is also considered. Existing voting-related felonies have five-year statutory maximums and are ranked at SL1, including felonies under Minn. Stat. § 204C.41 (Neglect of Duty by Election Officials), and Minn. Stat. § 204C.06 (Damaging or Removing Election Materials). It is, therefore, assumed that the new felonies would also be ranked at SL 1. At SL 1, cases with a Criminal History Scores of six or more are recommended prison sentences.

According to MSGC Monitoring data, from 2001 to 2023, there have been a total of 435 cases sentenced for voting violations (an annual average 21.75 cases), as described in Table 1.

Table 1. Felony Voting Violations, Sentenced 2001 to 2023

Voting Violation	Minn. Stat. Section	No. Cases	No. Annual Average	Percent
Not Eligible to Vote	201.014, subd. 1	272	13.6	62.5
Not Eligible to Vote	201.014, subd. 3	1	0.05	0.2
Not Eligible to Register	201.054, subd. 1	144	7.2	33.1

Not Eligible to Register	201.054, subd. 2	14	0.7	3.2
Absentee Ballot Sign False Certificate	203B.03, subd. 1(a)(1)	1	0.05	0.2
Absentee Ballot False Statement	203B.03, subd. 1(a)(2)	1	0.05	0.2
Absentee Ballot Violate; Cast or Aid in Illegal Vote	203B.03, subd. 1(a)(5)	1	0.05	0.2
Absentee Ballot; penalty	203B.03, subd. 2	1	0.05	0.2
Total		435	21.75	100

From 2001 to 2023, there have been no cases related to election officials under Minn. Stat. § 204C.41 or Minn. Stat. § 204C.06. However, according to testimony provided by the bill's author, Chair Rep. Quam at the March 5, 2025, Elections Finance and Government Operations hearing, an election judge in Austin, Minnesota admitted to burning ballots in 2002. MSGC staff found a newspaper article in the Austin Daily Herald from January 4, 2003, in which it was reported that Election Judge Jeanette Dennison admitted to burning 17 ballots on November 6, 2002. The election judge was not prosecuted. Based on testimony from Chair Rep. Quam and the newspaper article, it is assumed that there will be one additional felony voting violation every 20 years (an annual average 0.05 cases).

From 2001 to 2023, 1.6 percent (7 cases) received prison for an average 13 months (serve 2/3 term of imprisonment = 8.7 mos.); an average 50 percent (216 cases) of probation sentences received local confinement as a condition of probation. The average pronounced confinement time was 52 days (serve 2/3 = 35 days).

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Based on the above assumptions, that the number of convictions will be low (0.05 cases annually) and that the imprisonment rate is 1.6 percent, the impact on state correctional resources will be negligible.

Local Fiscal Impact

Based on the above assumptions, that the number of convictions will be low (0.05 cases annually) and that only one-half of probationers will receive local confinement as a condition of probation, the impact on local government will be negligible.

References/Sources

MSGC Monitoring Data, 2001 to 2023.

Elections Finance and Government Operations: Hearing Before the Comm. on Elections Finance and Government Operations, 94 Legislative Session (2025) (Statement of Chair Duane Quam).

Dennison Admits to Burning Ballots (Austin Daily Herald, Jan. 4, 2003) (retrieved March 5, 2025, at <https://www.austindailyherald.com/2003/01/dennison-admits-to-burning-ballots>).

Agency Contact:

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HF1800 - 0 - Voting Admin. Provisions Modified

Chief Author: **Duane Quam**
 Committee: **Elections Finance And Government Operations**
 Date Completed: **3/14/2025 3:39:28 PM**
 Agency: **Supreme Court**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

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Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium			Biennium	
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Susan Nelson **Date:** 3/14/2025 8:12:22 AM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

HF1800-0 ("the bill") makes a number of changes to several statutes within chapters 201, 203B, 204B, 204C, 204D, and 206 that pertain to voting regulations. The bill also modifies Minn. Stat. § 13.607 to add a new subdivision 10.

The bill modifies Minn. Stat. § 201.14, which currently requires the state court administrator to report certain name changes to the secretary of state, by adding a new paragraph (b) requiring the state court administrator to provide the secretary of state with detailed identification information for each person who responds to a juror summons with an indication that they are a noncitizen.

The bill also creates several new criminal provisions. Specifically, the bill modifies:

- Minn. Stat. § 204B.06, subd. 1 by adding a new paragraph (e) making it a criminal offense for someone to willfully make a false statement on an affidavit of candidacy;
- Minn. Stat. § 204B.40 by making it a felony offense under new paragraph (c) to destroy or dispose of voted ballots before the end of the retention period; and
- Minn. Stat. § 206.845, subd. 2 by making unauthorized access to preliminary vote totals a felony offense.

Assumptions

It is assumed that the state court administrator's office will only provide information under the modifications to Minn. Stat. § 201.14 if authorized by the Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch and the General Rules of Practice. The Legislature has long acknowledged that access to judicial-branch records "is governed by rules adopted by the Supreme Court." Minn. Stat. § 13.90, subd. 2.

It is assumed that any reporting done under the modifications to Minn. Stat. § 201.14 would not be automated and would be accomplished by periodic submission of a report.

It is assumed that criminal case filings will increase because this bill creates several new criminal offenses. It is assumed that the number of additional criminal cases will not exceed the current number of criminal case filings under Chapters 201, 203B, 204B, 204C, and 206 of the Minnesota Statutes. Based on the low number of criminal filings overall under those chapters, it is anticipated that the judicial branch will absorb any increased workload as a result of this bill.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Based on judicial branch data from the past ten years (2015-2024), there was a total of 269 cases filed with criminal charges under Chapters 201, 203B, 204B, 204C, and 206 of the Minnesota Statutes. This amounts to an annual average of just under 27 cases statewide. Even if cases under these chapters tripled as a result of the provisions of this bill, an

additional 54 criminal cases statewide would not be expected to have a significant fiscal impact on the judicial branch.

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

None

Local Fiscal Impact

References/Sources

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