



February 17, 2021

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S.D. SEC. OF STATE

Hon. Steve Barnett
 Secretary of State
 500 E Capitol Avenue
 Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Secretary Barnett,

The Legislative Research Council received a constitutional amendment to establish an independent legislative redistricting commission (commission). The amendment requires a fiscal note because it was determined that it may have an impact on revenues, expenditures, or fiscal liability of the state or its agencies and subdivisions. SDCL 2-9-31 requires the fiscal note be no longer than fifty "words." Therefore, numbers, percentages, and symbols do not count against the fifty-word limit.

The fiscal note examines the fiscal impacts associated with creating this new commission. The amendment sets the size of the commission at 9 members, a decrease from the 15 legislative committee members who have historically done the work of developing the plan to reapportion legislative districts. While the State would incur costs of \$121,962.84 in fiscal year 2024 when the commission meets for the first time, the State would see savings of \$51,175.36 in fiscal year 2032 and every tenth year thereafter in expenditures by having fewer members on the commission than was needed for legislative committees and eliminating the need for a special legislative session.

In 2011, the Legislative Redistricting Committee met 6 times. Two subcommittees of 6 legislators and 3 subcommittees of 5 legislators each met once at various locations across the state. For the purposes of this fiscal note, it is presumed that the commission will hold the same number of meetings as the committee but will always hold meetings with all members.

Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission Cost

	Current	Proposal	Change
Committee Members	15	9	6
Committee Total	\$39,466.22	\$23,679.73	(\$15,786.49)
Subcommittee Total	\$11,839.86	\$19,733.11	\$7,893.25
Special Session	\$51,832.12	\$0.00	(\$51,832.12)
Total Savings			(\$59,725.36)
Software	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$0.00
Hardware	\$0.00	\$8,100.00	\$8,100.00
Laptop bags	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$450.00
Total Additional Expenses			\$8,550.00
Total Expenses	\$173,138.20	\$121,962.84	(\$51,175.36)

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Further, while the amendment also provides that any person purposefully violating any portion of this section is guilty of fraud and shall be punished as provided by law, it is not clear what impact this would have on prison or jail costs, if any.

Enclosed is a copy of the initiated measure, in final form, that was submitted to this office. In accordance with SDCL 2-9-31, I hereby submit the Legislative Research Council's fiscal note with respect to this initiated measure.

Sincerely,



Reed Holwegner

Director

RH/cc

Enclosures

CC: Drawn Together SD