

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 517 - HB 1040

February 16, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits a county election commission or election official from prohibiting a voter from using a mobile communication device at a polling place except in certain circumstances.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$800/One-Time

Assumptions:

- Under current law, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-7-142, voters are prohibited from using mobile communication devices at a polling place for telephone conversations, recording, or taking photographs or videos while inside the polling place.
- The proposed language would authorize an election official to prohibit the use of mobile electronic devices only in instances where a voter utilized the device to photograph an election ballot, threaten another voter to cast a particular vote, or to disrupt or delay other persons from voting.
- According to the Department of State, posters detailing the permissible use of mobile devices at the polling places are distributed to each county for display. Passage of this bill will require printing of new posters to identify the new permissible uses of mobile devices and distribution of such new posters to the counties. The one-time increase in state expenditures for reprinting posters and distribution is estimated to be \$750.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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