SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COUNCIL

2022 South Dakota Legislature

FISCAL NOTE 2022-FN1116A

HB 1116 – An Act to modify the date for the state's presidential primary elections

The bill would amend SDCL 12-2-1 to move the primary election for U.S. presidential candidates to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March every presidential election year. The primary election for candidates referenced in SDCL 12-6-1 is currently held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June. The bill would also amend SDCL 12-5-3.14 to move the date by which the name of a candidate to be placed on the presidential primary election ballot must be reported to the Secretary of State to the last Tuesday in December before the presidential primary election.

The fiscal impact associated with this bill concerns the need for an additional primary election every four years to nominate presidential candidates of either major party. For this election, every four years, starting in 2024, the Secretary of State would be expected to spend up to an additional $377,804 on programming, printing, and shipping ballots. This number could be a low estimate due to increasing inflation and the increasing number of registered voters in South Dakota.

Further, the bill would amend SDCL 12-2-1 to require the State to reimburse each county for any costs incurred from holding a separate presidential primary election. For this election, counties would be expected to spend, on average, up to $19,118. Thus, the State would be expected to spend up to $1,261,803 every four years to reimburse the counties. The costs provided by these counties were then extrapolated to all counties proportional to population.

In total, the State would spend up to $1,639,607 every four years for a separate presidential primary election if this bill were to pass.

Data for this fiscal analysis was collected from the Secretary of State and several county auditors.

APPROVED BY: /s/ Reed Holwegner	DATE: 2/14/2022

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