



THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Division of Elections

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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May 12, 2023

Dear (S)FIN Committee,

At the Tuesday, May 9 hearing on CSSB 138 in Senate Finance, the committee asked the Division of Elections to respond to two questions. The first question was regarding the lifespan of signature verification systems currently in use. The division has reached out to several states and has not received a response. We also contacted the Anchorage Municipality, and they were not able to provide a lifespan estimation.

The second question was about the Fiscal Note, requesting an explanation for the difference in cost for the first year compared to the remaining years.

The chart below is provided to explain the note.

PERSONAL SVCS	ESTIMATED COST Election Year	DIVIDED BY 2*	TOTAL FIRST YEAR (FY2024)	TOTAL AFTER FIRST YEAR (FY25- 29)
7 non-perm	\$80.5	\$40.25	\$40.25	\$40.25
Pre-paid Postage	\$140.0	\$70.00	\$70.0	\$70.0
Reprint Envelopes with barcode and eliminate witness signature	\$110.00 (full amount first year, \$60 every other election year)	\$30.00	\$110.0	\$30.0
Software/License	\$6.0	\$3.0	\$3.0	\$3.0
Election Board	\$8.0	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$4.0
Ballot Tracking	\$40.0	\$20.0	\$20.0	\$20.0
Signature system support	\$150.0	\$75.0	\$75.0	\$75.0
Signature Training	\$40.0	\$20.0	\$20.0	\$20.0
			\$342.25	\$262.25

*Note: Beginning in FY17, the operating cost of holding primary and general elections was divided in half to reduce volatility in the final authorized budget of the Division of Elections while allowing for sufficient funding to conduct elections. In keeping with that practice, the above listed prices (ESTIMATED COST Election Year column) would be split in half each fiscal year to smooth the funding requirement of this legislation and included as two-year language items in an operating budget appropriations bill.

Thank you,

Carol Beecher

Director, Alaska Division of Elections

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