

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 7062

BILL NUMBER: HB 1359

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 7, 2026

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Scanning Ballots.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Wesco

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill specifies a process by which certain counties may scan voted optical scan ballot cards during the early voting period and on election day without using secrecy envelopes. The bill makes conforming amendments.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: County election boards that adopt the required resolution under the bill would reduce election material expenditures if secrecy ballots were no longer needed and reduce staff time of existing election board staff (or reduce expenditures from temporary ballot counter/openers' wages) from opening and checking the secrecy ballots prior to scanning the ballots.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Counties adopting the resolution under the bill.

Information Sources:

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