

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

**LS 7062**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1359

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 20, 2026

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 14, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Scanning Ballots.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Wesco

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**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:** Upon passage.

**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:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.