

HCS HJR 64 -- ELECTIONS (Cox)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on Elections

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment changes the laws regarding elections. In its main provisions, the resolution authorizes the enactment by general law of provisions which:

(1) Allow a person to vote in person in advance of election day at all elections. Advance voting may be permitted from the second Wednesday before the election until the first Wednesday before the election excluding Sundays. The voting may be conducted at locations as necessary or desirable to balance reasonable access to advance voting; accountability, integrity, and security of the election; efficiency in the administration of the election; and appropriate and responsible uses of public funds. The counting of advance ballots before the election day is prohibited. Certain restrictions on the release of voter identification information until after the regular election are specified. Advance voting cannot take place for any election held on or before January 1, 2012, in order to allow election authorities sufficient time to prepare. These provisions will not apply to absentee voting laws, and any law that conflicts with these provisions will not be valid or enforceable;

(2) Require a person seeking to vote in person in a public election to identify himself or herself and verify his or her qualifications as a citizen of the United States and a resident of Missouri and allow exceptions to the identification requirement; and

(3) Allow different requirements for absentee voting when the voter does not appear before the election authority.

If any portion, clause, or phrase of the resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction for any reason, the entire resolution will be invalid and of no further force or effect.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Effect on General Revenue Fund of an income of \$0 or a cost of More than \$7,000,000 in FY 2011, an income of \$0 to a cost of Unknown in FY 2012, and an income of \$0 to a cost of Unknown in FY 2013. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.