

Department of Elections

Trailing Legislation

FY 2026 – 2027 and FY 2027 – 2028

Budget and Appropriations Committee Hearing
June 17, 2026



Municipal Elections Code – Ballot Argument Fees

Ordinance amending the Municipal Elections Code to increase the filing fee and per-word fee for paid ballot arguments.

Fees	Current Since 1997	Starting July 1, 2027	Starting July 1, 2028	Starting July 1, 2029	Starting July 1, 2030
Filing Fee	\$200	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1000
Per-Word Fee	\$2	\$4	\$6	\$8	\$10

Impact

	Historical Average	Starting July 1, 2027	Starting July 1, 2028	Starting July 1, 2029	Starting July 1, 2030
Average Revenue	\$75,000*	\$150,000	\$225,000	\$300,000	\$375,000
Average costs of printing from past four scheduled elections	\$416,000	\$416,000	\$416,000	\$416,000	\$416,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$(341,000)	\$(266,000)	\$(191,000)	\$(116,000)	\$(41,000)

* Average actual revenue from past four scheduled elections



Municipal Elections Code - Voter Information Pamphlets

Ordinance amending the Municipal Elections Code to remove the requirement that the Department of Elections publish the legal text of ballot measures in the Voter Information Pamphlet (VIP) sent to voters before each election, and to allow the Director of Elections to determine the format of the Voter Information Pamphlet without the Ballot Simplification Committee's approval.

Municipal Elections Code - Voter Information Pamphlets

Impact

1. Removal of full legal text of associated with local ballot measures
2. Reduced printing and mailing costs
3. Reduced formatting and publication costs
4. Fewer pages in the VIP
5. Assigns the formatting of the VIP to the Director of Elections

Legal Text for local measures will continue to be available on the Department's Website, at the Department's Office, by email, every Public Library Branch, and upon request by mail.



Municipal Elections Code - Voter Information Pamphlets

Impact

Average Page Count of Legal Text in a VIP: **46**

Average Page Count of VIP: **230**

Estimated Average Page Count: **190**

Average costs of typesetting and printing: **\$330,000**

* Average are calculated from past four scheduled elections