

2023-2024 General Assembly

HOUSE BILL 259: 2023 Appropriations Act, Sec. 26.7: Statewide Elections Information Management System

Committee: Date:

Committee:		Date:	December 1, 2023
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Hillary Woodard
Analysis of:	Sec. 26.7 of S.L. 2023-134		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Section 26.7 of S.L. 2023-134 requires the State Board of Elections to use funds appropriated in this act to replace the Statewide Elections Information Management System, and requires the State Board of Elections, in consultation with the Department of Information Technology, to create and develop an initial plan to replace the Statewide Elections Information Management System and provide ongoing reports on the progress of the project.

This section became effective July 1, 2023.

**CURRENT LAW:** The State Board of Elections (State Board) is required to develop and implement a statewide computerized voter registration system to facilitate voter registration. The State Board is also required to provide a central database containing voter registration information for each county. The system stores and manages the official list of registered voters in the State and encompasses software development and the purchase of necessary hardware for the central and distributed-network systems. G.S. 163-82.11.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Section 26.7 of S.L. 2023-134 requires the State Board to use funds appropriated for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to replace the Statewide Elections Information Management System (SEIMS). It also required the State Board to consult with the Department of Information Technology in creating and developing a plan on how to replace SEIMS and to submit that plan to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government, the House Appropriations Committee on General Government, the Senate Appropriations Committee on General Government, the Joint Legislative Elections Oversight Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than November 1, 2023. The plan must include the following:

- A detailed description of the project.
- A projected timeline for the completion of the project with detailed milestones.
- The total cost of the project to the State, including five years of operation and maintenance costs after the completion of the project.
- A detailed description of the vendors expected to be involved in the project.
- A plan for county boards of election to participate in developing the new SEIMS.
- A plan for rolling out the new SEIMS and training county boards of election to use it.
- The number and total cost of personnel required to operate the new SEIMS once it is completed.
- The potential risks to the project and strategies to mitigate any risks.

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This bill analysis was prepared by the nonpartisan legislative staff for the use of legislators in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

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• Any other information the State Board deems necessary to successfully complete the project.

After submitting the initial plan, the State Board, in consultation with the Department of Information Technology, must continue to submit reports to the committees on a quarterly basis regarding the progress of the project until the project has been completed.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2023.