

**Local Mandate Fiscal Impact Estimate
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
2015 Regular Session**

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1134

Bill #: HB 221 GA

Bill Subject/Title: Eliminating the Recording Line Between Covington and Independence

Sponsor: Representative Arnold Simpson

Unit of Government: City County Urban-County
 Charter County Consolidated Local Unified Local
Government

Office(s) Impacted: Kenton County

Requirement: Mandatory Optional

Effect on

Powers & Duties: Modifies Existing Adds New Eliminates Existing

Part II: Purpose and Mechanics

HB 221 eliminates the requirement, created by a law in the 1860s, that individuals living within Covington city limits and Magistrate District 1 in Kenton County file any real or personal property transfers at the Covington clerk's office. Anyone outside of Covington or Magistrate District 1 currently has to file at the Independence office. If anyone living in Covington or Magistrate District 1 filed in Independence, or vice versa, the transfer would be void, pursuant to the old law. HB 221 would repeal the old law, and allow anyone living in Kenton County to file in either Covington or Independence.

Part III: Fiscal Explanation, Bill Provisions, and Estimated Cost

HB 221 is anticipated to provide savings to Kenton County.

The proposed bill eliminates the requirement that citizens of Covington and Magistrate District 1 file all real or personal property transactions at the Covington office. By eliminating the requirement, the County does not have to maintain two different sets of deed books: one for Covington, and the other for Independence. The Kenton County Clerk's Office pays approximately \$18,000 a year for deed book covers and

approximately \$6000 for the deed book paper for both Covington and Independence offices. If passed, costs for the deed book covers and paper would be reduced by half.

The bill would also help the county avoid storage costs. Both offices in Kenton County are small, and have very little room for storage. Maintaining only one set of books prevents the county from having to purchase or rent space for additional storage.

The county would experience small, but indeterminable savings in administrative costs, for clerks would no longer have to void and re-record any transactions filed in the wrong office.

Data Source(s): Kenton County Clerk's Office

Preparer: Daniel Carter **Reviewer:** MCY **Date:** 2/4/15