Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2019 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1110
Bill #: HB 247
Document ID #: 2178
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to elections.
Sponsor: Representative Maria N Sorolis
Unit of Government: X City X County X Urban-County Unified Local X Charter County X Consolidated Local X Government
Office(s) Impacted: County Clerks, Fiscal Courts
Requirement: X Mandatory Optional
Effect on Powers & Duties: Modifies ExistingX Adds New Eliminates Existing

Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local Government

HB 247 provides that for counties with a population of 90,000 or more, the polls shall be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. extended until the last person in line has voted. The remaining counties with populations of less than 90,000 will remain with the 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. hours of operation extended until the last person in line has voted. Population will be determined by the Kentucky State Data Center at the University of Louisville except in years in which the most recent official census data is reported.

The Kentucky County Clerks Association has concerns that asking precinct officers to serve an additional hour from a 12 hour day to a 13 hour day is unrealistic and would be counter-productive to a well-executed election at the precinct level.

Extending the voting hours would be an extra cost to the clerks mostly in the form of personnel cost for the additional hours and any possible rent/expense paid for polling venues. Whereas precinct officers are paid on a per diem basis, having two shifts work a precinct to cover the hours would double the cost.

The fiscal impact for HB 247 on local governments will be minimal to moderate. The cost of the election will not only increase for the country clerk's offices but also for the Fiscal Court's that are required to pay for the elections.

Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

Part II refers to HB 247 as introduced. There are no prior version of the bill.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff

Preparer: Wendell F. Butler **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/22/19