## Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2020 Regular Session

**Part I: Measure Information** 

Bill Request #: 421
Bill #: _ HB 141
<b>Document ID #:</b> 1730
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT pertaining to the election of board members of library districts.
Sponsor: Representative Larry Elkins
Unit of Government:  City  County  Urban-County  Unified Local  Charter County  Consolidated Local  Government
Office(s) Impacted: County Clerks
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 141 provides for the election of board members to public library taxing districts; those districts created solely by action of the fiscal court without a petition (KRS 173.450 to 173.650) and those districts created by submission of a public petition to the fiscal court resulting in a vote at the next general election (KRS 173.710 to 173.800).

These members will be elected at large on a nonpartisan basis at a regular election. In districts with more than one county, the fiscal court from each county shall determine the number of seats subject to election from that county. Any dispute between counties regarding the number of seats may be contested in Circuit Court.

The county clerks will be responsible for accepting nominating petitions and placing the names on the ballot within those districts from which board members will be elected. A voter may vote for as many candidates as there are members to be elected.

The county judge/executive will be responsible for filling board vacancies if the district is located entirely within one county. Vacancies within multi-county districts will be filled by the Governor. The proposal further details the terms of board members and the procedure for the removal of a board member.

The fiscal impact of HB 141 on local governments is expected to be minimal. The proposal states 'the cost of placing the names of the nominees before the voters shall be borne by the district."

According to Harp Enterprises, a vendor that provides electronic voting machines to 96 Kentucky counties, there are additional programming costs associated with adding a new category to the ballot on an already scheduled statewide election. For example, the cost to add a new category to the ballot for Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, with 291 precincts, has recently been estimated at between \$3,500 and \$4,500, and for Franklin County, with 44 precincts, the cost has been estimated at between \$1,700 and \$2,500.

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

Part II pertains to the bill as introduced.

**Data Source(s):** LRC Staff, Informatinoal Bulletin No. 115

**Preparer:** Wendell Butler **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 1/13/20