Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2020 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1889
Bill #: SB 276
Document ID #: <u>6543</u>
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT proposing to amend Sections 97, 99, 119, and 122 of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to terms of Constitutional offices.
Sponsor: Morgan M. McGarvey
Unit of Government: City x County x Urban-County Unified Local x Consolidated Local x Government
Office(s) Impacted: County clerks
Requirement:x Mandatory Optional
Effect on Powers & Duties:x _ Modifies Existing Adds New Eliminates Existing

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

The fiscal impact of SB 276 on local governments due to adding a constitutional amendment to a ballot would be minimal. There would also likely be small savings resulting from commonwealth attorneys and district judges appearing less frequently on ballots.

SB 276 proposes to amend Sections 97, 119, and 122 of the Constitution of Kentucky to increase the term of office for Commonwealth's Attorneys from six years to eight years beginning in 2030 and to increase the term of office for District Judges from four years to eight years beginning in 2022. The Act increases the requirement of being a licensed attorney from two years to eight years for District Judges beginning in 2022 and exempts any person serving as a District Judge on the effective date of the amendment from the eight-year licensure requirement. Ballot language is provided for submission to voters for ratification or rejection.

According to Harp Enterprises, a vendor that provides electronic voting machines to 96 Kentucky counties, the costs would range from \$15 per precinct for larger counties such as Fayette with 291 precincts to \$45 per precinct for counties such as Franklin with 44 precincts. 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, above, pertains to the bill as introduced.

Data Source(s): <u>Kentucky Association of Counties; Kentucky Association of County</u>

Clerks; Harp Enterprises.

Preparer: H. Marks Reviewer: KHC Date: 3/18/20