

**Local Government Mandate Statement
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
2021 Regular Session**

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 228

Bill #: HB 107

Document ID #: 1159

Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT proposing to create a new section of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to the environment.

Sponsor: Representative Josie Raymond

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

Office(s) Impacted: County clerks and potentially all units of local government

Requirement: Mandatory Optional

Effect on

Powers & Duties: Modifies Existing Adds New Eliminates Existing

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

HB 107 proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Kentucky stating that “As trustee of the environment and its natural resources, the commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.”

The long term fiscal impact of this amendment on potentially all units of local government is indeterminate and, at present, unknown.

By the language of the bill and as allowed by Kentucky Constitution Section 256, the proposed amendment would be submitted to the voters at the next regular election at which members of the General Assembly are chosen. This means that the proposed amendment would be considered in November 2022.

The costs of HB 107 to local governments due to adding a constitutional amendment to a ballot would be minimal. The cost associated with this bill would be related to the

programming involved with adding a new category to the ballot for electronic voting machines.

According to information supplied in early 2020 by Harp Enterprises, a vendor that provides electronic voting machines to most of Kentucky's counties, the additional programming costs associated with adding a new category to the ballot on a scheduled statewide election would range from \$15 per precinct for larger counties such as Fayette with 286 precincts (\$4,004) to \$45 per precinct for counties such as Franklin with 44 precincts (\$1,980)

There could be additional costs associated with extra paper (if the ballot language requires additional space) for paper ballots and absentee voting. It has been estimated that the cost of one extra page for a ballot is \$0.25.

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

The Part II section above pertains to the bill as introduced.

Data Source(s): Kentucky County Clerks Association; Fayette County Clerk; Harp Enterprises; LRC staff

Preparer: H. Marks **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 1/5/21