Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2021 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 111	6								
Bill #: HB 4 HCS									
Document ID #: 2306									
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT proposing to amend Sections 36 and 42 of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to sessions of the General Assembly.									
Sponsor: Representative David Osborne									
Unit of Government:		X County X Consolidated Local	Unified Local						
Office(s) Impacted:	County clerk								
Requirement: X	Mandatory Op	tional							
Effect on Powers & Duties: <u>x</u>	▲ Modifies Existing	Adds New E	liminates Existing						

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

HB 4 HCS 1 would propose an amendment to Sections 36 and 42 of the Kentucky Constitution to eliminate the existing dates by which the General Assembly must adjourn in any regular session, and permit the General Assembly to extend the length of its legislative sessions by 10 days upon the vote of 3/5 of the membership of each House, with no session to extend beyond December 31.

HB 4 HCS 1 would also propose an amendment to Section 55 of the Kentucky Constitution. Currently, Section 55 provides that bills generally become effective 90 days after adjournment by the General Assembly. HB 4 HCS 1 changes this effective date to instead be 90 days after passage and signature of the Governor. There would be no change to the Constitution's provisions relating to bills with an emergency clause.

By the language of HB 4 HCS 1 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 4 HCS 1 to local governments due to adding a constitutional amendment to a ballot would be minimal. The costs associated with this bill would be related to the programming involved with adding a new category to the ballot for electronic voting machines and with the printing of paper ballots.

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

Part II, above, relates to HB 4 HCS 1, which differs from the introduced version as follows:

• HCS 1 adds the proposed amendment to Section 55 of the Kentucky Constitution. Section 55 was not contained in the introduced version.

The HCS should not change the fiscal impact of the bill as introduced.

Data Source(s):	LRC Staff; Fayett	e County Clerk Don I	Blevins; Harp Enterprises	

Preparer:	Robert Jenkins	Reviewer:	KHC	Date:	1/6/21