

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

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1787

Bill #: HB 528

Document ID #: 3774

Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT proposing an amendment to Section 226 of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to casino gaming.

Sponsor: Representative Al Gentry

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

Office(s) Impacted: County clerk offices

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 528 would propose to amend Section 226 of the Kentucky Constitution to authorize the General Assembly to define, permit, and regulate casino gaming, require proceeds to be used to pay for oversight of casino gaming, mandate that 100 percent of proceeds in excess of oversight costs go to specified retirement systems prior to July 1, 2040, and allow the General Assembly to allocate proceeds in excess of oversight costs after July 1, 2040.

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 and in a year in which there is no election for the President and Vice President of the United States. This means that the proposed amendment would be considered in November 2022.

The costs of HB 528 to local governments due to adding a constitutional amendment to a ballot would be minimal. Based on information received in early 2020 from Harp

Enterprises, a vendor that provides electronic voting machines to almost 100 Kentucky counties, there are additional programming costs associated with adding a new constitutional amendment 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 286 precincts, was estimated at between \$3,500 and \$4,500, and for Franklin County, with 44 precincts, the cost was estimated at between \$1,700 and \$2,500.

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 single ballot is \$0.25, depending on the county's printing contract. Therefore, the total cost would depend on the number of paper ballots that would need the extra page.

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

Part II, above, relates to the bill as introduced.

Data Source(s): LRC staff; Harp Enterprises

Preparer: Robert Jenkins **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/24/21