Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2021 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1793	
Bill #: SB 175	
Document ID #: 3951	
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT proposing an amendment to Section 145 of the Constitution o Kentucky relating to persons entitled to vote.	f
Sponsor: Senator Reginald Thomas	
Unit of Government: City X County X Urban-County Unified Local X Charter County X Consolidated Local X Government	
Office(s) Impacted: County clerk offices	
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

SB 175 would propose to amend Section 145 of the Constitution of Kentucky to allow US citizens aged 16 and 17 years old to vote in school board and local elections.

The costs of SB 175 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:** 2/5/21