Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2022 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 984	_		
Bill #: HB 155	_		
Document ID #: 1829	_		
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to constables.			
Sponsor: Representative Ryan Dotson			
Unit of Government:	City	X County	X Urban-County Unified Local
X	Charter County	X Consolidated Local	
Office(s) Impacted: Local Governments, County Clerk			
Requirement: X Mand	atory Option	al	
Effect on Powers & Duties: X Mod	difies Existing	X Adds New X El	iminates Existing

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

The proposed legislation shall be known as the Benjamin Stidham Act. It details legislative findings in regard to constables/deputy constables (constables) and establishes a Constable Certification Program. Constables must successfully complete the requisite training curriculum to be considered a certified constable/deputy constable. The certification must be maintained annually by completing required in-service training.

The bill requires that certified constables be paid the same fees for services as sheriffs, receive established line of duty death benefits as other certified peace officers, sets bonding requirements for constables at \$10,000, and includes certified constables which within the definition of "emergency vehicle" thus permitting blue lights.

This analysis only applies to sections of this legislation with an identified fiscal impact to local government.

Sections 2 and 3 creates new sections of KRS Chapter 70 to create the Constable Certification Program and requisite training criteria. It requires a county board of elections or the county clerk to provide notice of an election of a constable or an appointment of a constable by the county judge-executive to the Kentucky Constable Association within 60 days of the election or appointment.

Section 10 establishes limits to the number of deputy constables allowed to be appointed, sets their salary, and directs that the salary be paid out of fees collected from services. It also requires that deputy constables be certified and must maintain their certification throughout their tenure.

Sections 11 and 12 adds that any vehicle used for emergency purposes by certified Constables to the definition of an "emergency vehicle" and requires that they be equipped with one or more flashing, rotating or oscillating blue lights. By ordinance, local government may direct that the police, sheriff or constables' vehicles in their respective jurisdiction be equipped with a combination of red and blue lights

Section 18 repeals KRS 64.200 - Constables in Counties of over 250,000, and KRS 70.430 - Constables in Counties of 250,000 - Duties—Monthly Report.

The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminable but is expected to be minimal and mostly related to notifications of change in constables' positions. Minimal additional costs may be incurred for modifying a local ordinance to include constables' vehicles as an emergency vehicle.

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

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

Data Source(s): LRC Staff

Preparer: MJO/KS Reviewer: KHC Date: 1/5/22