

The fiscal impact of requiring local governments to add a constitutional amendment to a ballot would be minimal, though for counties with smaller budgets the impact may be minimal to moderate.

Balloting and publishing proposed constitutional amendments is a regular duty of county clerks, paid for by the county fiscal court. There are additional programming costs associated with adding a new category (local option question or constitutional amendment) to the ballot on an already scheduled statewide election.

Ballot printing costs are also a factor in election expenses. If the proposed amendment results in additional pages needed for the ballot, that would be an additional cost to the county clerk's office. 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 applies to HB 174 as introduced. There is no earlier version for comparison

Data Source(s): LRC Staff

Preparer: Jacob Blevins (WB) **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/15/23