Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2023 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1469
Bill #: HB 358
Document ID #: _3587
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to voter registration.
Sponsor: Representative Tom Smith
Unit of Government: City X County X Urban-County Unified Local
X Charter County X Consolidated Local X Government
Office(s) Impacted: County Clerks
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

Section 1 of HB 358 amends KRS 116.045 to extend the deadline for voter registration to 21 days prior to any election day. Currently, this deadline is the fourth Tuesday preceding any election day. This would effectively allow for 7 additional days of voter registration before an election.

Section 2 amends KRS 116.113 to require that the State Board of Elections remove voter names upon notification of death, incompetency, or felony conviction before the registration books are closed, if the notifications are received within five days of the books closing.

HB 358 is expected to have a negative but indeterminate impact on county clerks.

According to the Kentucky County Clerk's Association, registration cards would need to be processed more quickly given the shorter turnaround times. Registration data must be loaded onto e-poll books and e-poll books must then be tested for accuracy. Hiring

temporary help may be necessary, which would result in additional personnel costs to county clerks.

According to the Jefferson County Clerk's Office, at least 3 people would need to be assigned to voter registration duties for an additional week. This would remove current employees from performing their usual critical duties during that week, such as processing mail-in voting.

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

Part II refers to HB 358 as introduced. There are no prior versions.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff, Kentucky County Clerks' Association, Jefferson County Clerk's

<u>Office</u>

Preparer: Jacob Blevins (WB) **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 3/1/23