

HB 50 provides that appointments to fill the vacancies of the mayor or a city legislative body must be in accordance with Section 152 of the Kentucky Constitution. If, after thirty days, the mayor vacancy or a city legislative body vacancy has yet to be filled, the Governor may appoint a qualified person. Required procedures are provided for filling the mayor's vacancy by the legislative body as well as for filling vacancies on the legislative body.

For partisan elections without a primary candidate ballot positions shall be determined by lot, if there is more than one candidate for the office of the same party affiliation.

HB 50 will require county and independent school board candidates to have their party affiliation presented on the ballot. For independent boards of education, candidates shall not have a primary election, only a regular election.

The fiscal impact of HB 50 on local governments is expected to be minimal. The Kentucky County Clerk's Association doesn't think there would be substantial cost in implementing HB 50. Procedures for partisan elections are already in place, as well as machines that are currently capable of handling partisan elections. The clerks will have to program the voting machines accordingly and prepare paper ballots to reflect the party affiliation of the candidates, but these costs should be similar to current cost. There may be minor cost related to training local election officials regarding the change to partisan elections. Likewise, educating the public may be an added expense to the Clerk's office if money is not made available for this purpose. There are no changes to the election calendar as a result of HB 50.

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

Part II refers to HB 50 as introduced. There are no prior versions.

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

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