Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2024 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 309			
Bill #: HB 152			
Document ID #: 1623			
Bill Title:	AN ACT relating to elec	ctions.	
Sponsor: Representative Chad R. Aull			
Unit of Government:		X County X Consolidated Local	Unified Local
Office(s) Impacted:	County Clerks		
Requirement: X Mandatory Optional			
Effect on Powers & Duties:	_ Modifies Existing	X Adds New X El	iminates Existing
Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local			

Government

HB 152 prevents straight ticket voting. A voter may not vote for more than one candidate or slate of candidates of the same political party by a single mark or act in a regular election.

The number of states offering straight ticket voting has been declining over the years. Currently, straight ticket voting exists in only six states: Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Oklahoma, and South Carolina.

HB 152 would have a minimal to moderate negative fiscal impact on county clerk's offices.

There would be minimal costs associated with removing straight-ticket voting:

• Straight-party ticket is a programming setting that can be removed in any race. For instance, there is no straight-ticket voting in primary elections.

- Although current voting machines allow for straight-ticket voting by simply voting for each individual candidate, there might be concerns regarding ballot presentation and adhering to the provisions of HB 152. In the unlikely event that new machines are necessitated, voting machines typically cost \$3,500 to \$5,000 each.
- Training staff on the new procedures and informing the public by way of signs or other forms of media would increase cost; and
- Designing and printing a new ballot format removing straight-ticket voting would increase costs, but these costs may be minimized for future elections if the same design is used.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff

Preparer: Jacob Blevins (LG) **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/16/24