

**Local Government Mandate Statement  
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission  
2024 Regular Session**

**Part I: Measure Information**

**Bill Request #:** 398

**Bill #:** SB 358

**Document ID #:** 7070

**Bill Title:** AN ACT proposing to create a new section of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to education funding.

**Sponsor:** Senator Gex Williams

Unit of Government:  City  County  Urban-County  
 Charter County  Consolidated Local  Unified Local  
Government

Office(s) Impacted: County clerks

Requirement:  Mandatory  Optional

Effect on Powers & Duties:  Modifies Existing  Adds New  Eliminates Existing

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

SB 358 proposes to add a new section to the Constitution of Kentucky stating the General Assembly may provide for the educational costs of students outside of the system of common schools. Sections 183, 184, 186, and 189 of this Constitution shall not prevent any provision for educational costs of students outside of the system of common schools, nor require a referendum for funding such educational costs so long as no funds are used from the common school fund.

By the language of the bill and as allowed by Kentucky Constitution Section 256, the proposed amendment would be submitted to the voters at the next regular election at which time members of the General Assembly are chosen. This means that the proposed amendment would be considered in November 2024.

**The fiscal impact requiring local governments to add a constitutional amendment to the 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.

**Data Source(s):** LRC Staff

**Preparer:** Lauren Graves (JB)      **Reviewer:** KHC      **Date:** 2/29/24