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

## **Part I: Measure Information**

<b>Bill Request #:</b> 316					
<b>Bill #:</b> SB 79					
<b>Document ID #:</b> 2143					
Bill Title: _Al	N ACT relating to elec	tions.			
Sponsor: Senator Adrienne Southworth					
Unit of Government:	City	X County	X Urban-County Unified Local		
	X Charter County	X Consolidated Local			
Office(s) Impacted:	County Clerks, Local I	Law Enforcement			
Requirement: <u>X</u> M	Aandatory Optic	onal			
Effect on Powers & Duties:	Modifies Existing	X Adds New X Elis	minates Existing		

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

SB 79 makes several gender-neutral updates and technical corrections. SB 79 also makes procedural changes regarding a contested election and the Circuit Court's responsibility including requiring that the Circuit Court be the custodian of the keys and materials while they are in the possession of the Circuit Court until the recount. The Circuit Court may use the services of any law enforcement agency to transport all keys, voting machines, voting equipment, or voting system, ballots, boxes, and all papers and materials pertaining to the contested election.

**The fiscal impact of SB 79 on local governments is expected to be minimal.** The cost of the recount is the responsibility of the party requesting the recount. A bond shall be executed with approved surety for the costs of the recount, in an amount fixed by the Circuit Judge.

If a bond was collected and the recount did not change the outcome of the election, the county keeps the bond and deposits it in the county's election fund. Even if the election

outcome is overturned as a result of the recount, current state law does not provide for the return of the bond or refund of any cost.

## Data Source(s): LRC Staff

Preparer:         Jacob Blevins (LG)         Reviewer:         KHC	Date:	1/29/24
--	-------	---------