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

## Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request \#: 316
Bill \#: SB 79
Document ID \#: 2143
Bill Title: $\quad$ AN ACT relating to elections.
Sponsor: Senator Adrienne Southworth
Unit of Government:
 City


Office(s) Impacted: County Clerks, Local Law Enforcement
Requirement: $\quad \mathbf{X}$ Mandatory ___ Optional
Effect on
Powers \& Duties: ___ Modifies Existing _X_Adds New X Eliminates 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

