

**Local Government Mandate Statement  
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission  
2026 Regular Session**

**Part I: Measure Information**

<b>Bill Request #:</b>	1584	<b>Bill #:</b>	HB 288
<b>Document ID #:</b>	2941	<b>Sponsor:</b>	Rep. Kim Banta
<b>Bill Title:</b>	AN ACT proposing an amendment to Section 32 of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to terms of members of the General Assembly.		

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

Office(s) Impacted:    County Clerks

Requirement:        ☒ Mandatory        ☐ Optional

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

Other Fiscal Statement(s) that may exist:    ☐ Actuarial Analysis        ☐ Corrections Impact  
   ☐ Health Benefit Mandate    ☐ State Employee Health Plan

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

HB 288 amends Section 32 of the Constitution of Kentucky to restrict members of the House of Representatives to no more than six elected terms and members of the Senate to no more than four elected terms. In determining eligibility requirements, partial terms of less than two full years as a result of a special election shall not be considered.

Conversely, any person elected in a regularly scheduled election who resigns prior to the completion of the term shall be considered to have served the full term in that office.

**The costs of HB 288 to local governments due to adding a constitutional amendment to a ballot would be minimal.**

Section 256 of the Kentucky Constitution specifies that constitutional amendments are only added to the ballot for the general election in even-numbered years (“next general election for members of the House of Representatives”). Therefore, the constitutional amendment would be submitted to the voters in November, 2026.

Balloting and publishing proposed constitutional amendments is a regular duty of county clerks, paid for by the county fiscal court. According to information received in early 2020 from Harp Enterprises, a vendor which provides electronic voting machines to almost 100 Kentucky counties, 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. For example, the cost to add a new category to the ballot for Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, with 286 precincts, has recently been estimated at between \$3,500 and \$4,500, and for Franklin County, with 44 precincts, the cost has been estimated at between \$1,700 and \$2,500.

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.

**Data Source(s):** LRC Staff; Harp Enterprises

**Preparer:** JB **Reviewer:** BW (MDA) **Date:** 1/13/26