

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 1322-01  
Bill No.: HJR 19  
Subject: Constitutional Amendments; County Officials  
Type: Original  
Date: March 27, 2009

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Bill Summary: Would propose a constitutional amendment requiring all assessors in the state to be elected.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

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## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** responded that many joint resolutions considered by the General Assembly would require the SOS to pay for publishing in local newspapers the full text of each statewide ballot measure. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. Funding for this item is adjusted each year depending upon the election cycle. The appropriation has historically been estimated because the final cost is dependent upon the number of ballot measures approved by the General Assembly and the initiative petitions certified for the ballot.

In FY 2009, at the November election, there were 5 statewide Constitutional Amendments or ballot propositions that cost \$1.35 million to publish (an average of \$270,000 per issue). Therefore, the SOS assumes, for the purposes of this fiscal note, that it should have the full appropriation authority it needs to meet the publishing requirements. However, because publication is mandatory, we reserve the right to request funding to meet the cost of our publishing requirements.

If this proposal is the subject of a special election rather than part of a general election ballot, the cost of the special election has been estimated at \$1.2 million based on the cost of the past two such elections.

**Oversight** assumes this proposal would be included on a general election ballot and that SOS would have sufficient appropriations to meet the publication requirements and support the election. Oversight will not include any impact for the SOS in this fiscal note.

Officials from the **Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning (BAP)** assume this proposal would not result in added cost to their organization. BAP officials noted that the assessors for the City of St. Louis, and the Counties of Jackson and St. Louis are appointed. Those counties could incur additional costs as a result of the proposal if the election of an assessor took place in an "off year" from general elections.

**Oversight** assumes the assessors would be included in the general election and will include no cost for local assessor elections in this fiscal note.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials from the **Department of Revenue** and the **State Tax Commission** assume this proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organizations.

Officials from **St. Louis County** stated that they are unable to determine costs based on the information in the proposal. The officials also stated their assumption that there would be some costs such as running an election.

Officials from **Jackson County, St. Charles County,** and the **City of St. Louis** did not respond to our request for information.

**Oversight** assumes the assessors would be included in the general election process, and that any additional costs to local governments would be minimal and could be absorbed with existing resources.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2010 (10 Mo.)	FY 2011	FY 2012
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2010 (10 Mo.)	FY 2011	FY 2012
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no fiscal impact.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the Secretary of State  
Office of Administration  
    Division of Budget and planning  
Department of Revenue  
State Tax Commission  
St. Louis county

NOT RESPONDING

**Jackson County**  
**St. Charles County**  
**City of St. Louis**



Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
March 27, 2009