

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0783-01
Bill No.: HJR 19
Subject: Constitutional Amendments; Conservation Department; Agriculture and Animals;
Elections
Type: Original
Date: January 13, 2015

Bill Summary: Would propose a constitutional amendment requiring two-thirds majority for voter approval of any initiative relating to bird, fish, game, wildlife, or forestry resources.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☒ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Local Government*	\$0	\$0	\$0

* Potential expenses and reimbursements netting to zero in FY 2016 if a special election is called by the Governor.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** stated that each year, a number of joint resolutions which would refer to a vote of the people a constitutional amendment and bills which would refer to a vote of the people the statutory issue in the legislation may be considered by the General Assembly.

Unless a special election is called for the purpose, Joint Resolutions proposing a constitutional amendment are submitted to a vote of the people at the next general election. The Missouri Constitution authorizes the Governor to order a special election for constitutional amendments referred to the people. If a special election is called to submit a Joint Resolution to a vote of the people, state law requires the state to pay the costs. The cost of a special election has been estimated to be \$7.1 million based on the cost of the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary.

The SOS is required to pay for publishing in local newspapers the full text of each statewide ballot measure, and the SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. Funding for these publications is adjusted each year depending upon the election cycle, with \$1.3 million historically appropriated in odd numbered fiscal years and \$100,000 appropriated in even numbered fiscal years to meet these requirements. Through FY 2013, the appropriation was an estimated appropriation 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 2013, at the August and November elections, there were 5 statewide Constitutional Amendments or ballot propositions that cost \$2.17 million to publish (an average of \$434,000 per issue).

In FY 2015, the General Assembly changed the appropriation so that it was no longer an estimated appropriation and the SOS was appropriated \$1.19 million to publish the full text of the measures. In FY 2015, at the August and November elections, there were 9 statewide Constitutional Amendments or ballot propositions that cost \$1.1 million to publish (an average of \$122,000 per issue). The SOS reduced the scope of publication for these measures. Despite the FY 2015 reduction, the SOS will continue to assume, for the purposes of this fiscal note, that it should have the full appropriation authority it needs to meet the publishing requirements. Because these publications are mandatory, the SOS reserves the right to request funding to meet the cost of our publishing requirements.

ASSUMPTION (Continued)

Oversight has reflected in this fiscal note the cost for the state to potentially reimburse local political subdivisions for the cost of adding this proposed constitutional change to the ballot during a special election in fiscal year 2016. This reflects the decision made by the Joint Committee on Legislative Research, that the potential cost of elections should be reflected in the fiscal note. The next scheduled general election is in August 2016 (FY 2017). It is assumed the subject within this proposal could be on that ballot; however, it could also be on a special election called for by the Governor. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a potential election cost reimbursement to local political subdivisions in FY 2016.

Officials from the **Department of Conservation** and **Department of Natural Resources** each assume the proposal would not fiscally impact their agency.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Transfer Out - Office of the Secretary of State - reimbursement of local election authorities for election costs if a special election is called</u>	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,100,000</u>)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,100,000</u>)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES			
<u>Transfer In</u> - Cost reimbursement from the State for special election	\$0 or More than \$7,100,000	\$0	\$0
<u>Expense</u> - Cost for special election	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES	<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.

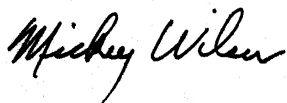
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This proposal would require a two-thirds majority for voter approval of any initiative relating to bird, fish, game, wildlife, or forestry resources.

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 Secretary of State
Department of Conservation
Department of Natural Resources



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Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
January 13, 2015

Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
January 13, 2015