

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0407H.02I
Bill No.: HJR 23
Subject: Constitutional Amendments; Conservation, Department of; Animals; Fishing and Hunting
Type: Original
Date: January 14, 2021

Bill Summary: This Joint Resolution proposes a Constitutional Amendment to assert the right of Missourians to hunt and fish.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
General Revenue*	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)	\$0	\$0

*The potential fiscal impact of “(More than \$7,000,000)” would be realized only if a special election were called by the Governor to submit this joint resolution to voters.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Local Government	\$0*	\$0*	\$0*

*Transfer out and transfer in net to zero if a special election is called.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC)** assume this proposal will have an unknown negative fiscal impact caused by conflicting language between this constitutional amendment language and the Wildlife Code of Missouri that leads to enforcement actions.

Oversight notes according to MDC's website, MDC seeks input from the public in regards to changes to the Missouri Wildlife Code on an annual basis. From this input, recommendations are provided to the Director and the Conservation Commission. Oversight assumes there will not be a direct fiscal impact. Fiscal impact will be determined after MDC seeks input from the public in regards to changes to the Missouri Wildlife Code.

Officials from **Office of the Secretary of State** assume, each year, a number of joint resolutions that would refer to a vote of the people a constitutional amendment and bills that 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. Article XII section 2(b) of 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, section 115.063.2 RSMo requires the state to pay the costs. The cost of the special election has been estimated to be \$7 million based on the cost of the 2020 Presidential Preference Primary.

The Secretary of State's office is required to pay for publishing in local newspapers the full text of each statewide ballot measure as directed by Article XII, Section 2(b) of the Missouri Constitution and Section 116.230-116.290, RSMo. Funding for this item is adjusted each year depending upon the election cycle. A new decision item is requested in odd numbered fiscal years and the amount requested is dependent upon the estimated number of ballot measures that will be approved by the General Assembly and the initiative petitions certified for the ballot. In FY 2014, the General Assembly changed the appropriation so that it was no longer an estimated appropriation.

In FY19, over \$5.8 million was spent to publish the full text of the measures for the August and November elections. The SOS estimates \$65,000 per page for the costs of publications based on the actual cost incurred for the one referendum that was on the August 2018 ballot.

The Secretary of State's office 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 requirements are mandatory, we reserve the right to request funding to meet the

cost of our publishing requirements if the Governor and the General Assembly again change the amount or continue to not designate it as an estimated appropriation.

Oversight has reflected, in this fiscal note, the state potentially reimbursing local political subdivisions the cost of having this joint resolution voted on during a special election in fiscal year 2022. This reflects the decision made by the Joint Committee on Legislative Research that the cost of the elections should be shown in the fiscal note. The next scheduled statewide primary election is in August 2022 and the next scheduled general election is in November 2022 (both in FY 2023). It is assumed the subject within this proposal could be on one of these ballots; however, it could also be on a special election called for by the Governor (a different date). Therefore, Oversight will reflect a potential election cost reimbursement to local political subdivisions in FY 2022.

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assume this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2022 (10 Mo.)	FY 2023	FY 2024
GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
<u>Transfer Out - SOS - reimbursement of local election authority election costs if a special election is called by the Governor</u>	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,000,000</u>)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,000,000</u>)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2022 (10 Mo.)	FY 2023	FY 2024
LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS			
<u>Transfer In</u> - Local Election Authorities - reimbursement of election costs by the State for a special election	\$0 or More than \$7,000,000	\$0	\$0
<u>Costs</u> - Local Election Authorities - cost of a special election if called for by the Governor	\$0 or (More than \$7,000,000)	\$0	\$0
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Upon voter approval, this proposed Constitutional amendment guarantees the right of hunters and anglers in the state to engage in hunting, fishing, or harvesting wildlife using traditional means. Public hunting and fishing shall be a preferred means of wildlife management and control. The amendment does not prevent the General Assembly from enacting laws that limit the rights of convicted violent felons or those deemed by a court to be a danger as a result of a mental disorder or mental infirmity.

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

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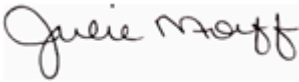
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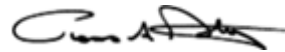
January 14, 2021

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Missouri Department of Conservation
Office of the Secretary of State
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules



Julie Morff
Director
January 14, 2021



Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
January 14, 2021