



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [H.B. 433 of the 129th G.A.](#) **Date:** May 4, 2012
Status: As Reported by House Local Government **Sponsor:** Rep. Damschroder

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Abolishes the Sandusky County County Court and creates the Sandusky County Municipal Court

State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND

FY 2014 – FUTURE YEARS

General Revenue Fund (GRF)

Revenues	- 0 -
Expenditures	Annual reduction of \$9,223 related to judicial salaries

Note: The state fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. For example, FY 2014 is July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

- Starting with FY 2014, the bill will decrease GRF expenditures related to judicial salaries by \$9,223 annually through the abolition of two part-time judgeships and creation of one full-time municipal court judgeship in Sandusky County.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FY 2014 – FUTURE YEARS

Sandusky County

Revenues	- 0 -
Expenditures	Annual reduction of \$23,316 related to judicial salaries

Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calendar year. The school district fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

- Starting with FY 2014, the abolition of two part-time judgeships and creation of one full-time municipal court judgeship will result in an annual savings to Sandusky County of \$23,316 related to judicial salaries. The County expects the one-time transitional costs (signage, stationary, etc.) associated with the abolition of its county court and creation of a municipal court to be negligible.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill abolishes the Sandusky County County Court and establishes the Sandusky County Municipal Court. Effective January 1, 2014, the two part-time judgeships serving that jurisdiction will be abolished and replaced by a full-time municipal court judgeship. These changes will minimally reduce the annual expenditures of Sandusky County and the state of Ohio related to judicial salaries and result in negligible one-time transitional costs for the County.

State fiscal effects

The state is statutorily responsible for paying a portion of the salary of county court and municipal court judges. In the case of Sandusky County, the elimination of two part-time county court judgeships and their replacement with one full-time municipal court judgeship will result in a net reduction of expenditures related to judicial salaries of \$9,223 annually starting with FY 2014. Funding for the state share of judicial salaries is provided by GRF line item 005321, Operating Expenses – Judiciary/Supreme Court. The components of the state's judicial salary costs and resulting savings from the bill are detailed in the table below.

Comparison of the State Share of Annual Judicial Salaries			
Cost component	2 Part-time judgeships	1 Full-time municipal court judgeship	Cost savings
Salary (by statute)	\$60,300	\$52,350	\$7,950
PERS (14.0%)	\$8,442	\$7,329	\$1,113
Medicare (1.5%)	\$905	\$785	\$120
Worker's Compensation (0.5%)	\$302	\$262	\$40
Annual Totals	\$69,949	\$60,726	\$9,223

Sandusky County fiscal effects

The abolition of two part-time county court judgeships and creation of one-full time municipal court judgeship in Sandusky County will reduce county expenditures related to judicial salaries and benefits by \$23,316 annually. The following table provides a detailed analysis of that expenditure decrease.

Comparison of the Local Share of Annual Judicial Salaries			
Cost component	2 Part-time judgeships	1 Full-time municipal court judgeship	Cost savings
Salary (by statute)	\$71,000	\$61,750	\$9,250
PERS (14.0%)	\$9,940	\$8,645	\$1,295
Medicare (1.5%)	\$1,065	\$926	\$139
Worker's Compensation (0.5%)	\$355	\$309	\$46
Health Insurance	\$25,172	12,586	\$12,586
Annual Totals	\$107,532	\$84,216	\$23,316

The bill will result in negligible one-time transitional costs (signage, stationary, etc.) for Sandusky County. Local officials contacted by LSC indicated these changes to the structure of the court system in Sandusky County will not trigger any additional costs related to staffing, procedures, or capital improvements, and that the transition will be relatively seamless.

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