



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: S.J.R. 4 of the 130th G.A.

Date: November 19, 2013

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sen. LaRose

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Rule review and invalidation

State Fiscal Highlights

- All of the expenses incurred by the Secretary of State to advertise the ballot issue statewide will be reimbursed with money transferred by the Controlling Board from GRF line item 911441, Ballot Advertising Costs, to the Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0).

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Overview of the resolution

The resolution proposes to amend the Ohio Constitution to permit the General Assembly to: (1) invalidate rules proposed or adopted under statute and (2) create and empower one or more joint committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives to review such rules and to make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding those rules. Additionally, the resolution requires the proposed constitutional amendment be submitted to the electors at the November 4, 2014 general election, and if adopted takes effect January 1, 2015.

If adopted, the amendment will have no fiscal effect on the General Assembly. This is because the Revised Code currently gives the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) the authority to review administrative rules.

Ballot advertising costs

If both houses of the General Assembly concur in the resolution, the Secretary of State will incur costs for ballot advertising under Section 1 of Article XVI of the Ohio Constitution. Section 1 requires that the ballot language, the explanations, and the arguments, if any, be published once a week for three consecutive weeks preceding such election in at least one newspaper of general circulation in each county of the state where a newspaper is published.

Appropriations made to the Controlling Board, typically GRF line item 911441, Ballot Advertising Costs, are used to reimburse the Secretary of State for all expenses the Secretary of State incurs for such advertising. The funds to reimburse the Secretary of State are transferred by the Controlling Board to the Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0), which is used by the Secretary of State to pay for all costs associated with the required advertising of statewide ballot issues.

Statewide ballot advertising costs depend on the length of the ballot issue. As an example, the Secretary of State spent \$446,218 in ballot advertising costs for the two statewide issues that appeared on the November 6, 2012 general election ballot, specifically the Constitutional Modernization Commission (State Issue 1) and Redistricting (State Issue 2).