

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 4827-01  
Bill No.: HJR 54  
Subject: Constitutional Amendments; General Assembly  
Type: Original  
Date: March 12, 2014

Bill Summary: This legislation proposes a Constitutional Amendment reducing the number of members of the Missouri House of Representatives from 163 to 120 and increasing the number of Senators from 34 to 40 beginning in 2023.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund*</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\* Potential savings from a smaller General Assembly is beyond the scope of this fiscal note.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<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 6 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</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 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</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 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** 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, subsection 115.063.2 RSMo requires the state to pay the costs. The cost of the special election has been estimated to be \$7.1 million based on the cost of the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary. This figure was determined through analyzing and totaling expense reports from the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary received from local election authorities.

SOS 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 sections 116.230-116.290, RSMo. 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 with \$1.3 million historically appropriated in odd numbered fiscal years and \$100,000 appropriated in even numbered fiscal years to meet these requirements. The appropriation has historically been 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). 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 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 change the amount or eliminate the estimated nature of our appropriation.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

**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 2015. 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 general election is in November 2014 (FY 2015). 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 2015.

Officials from the **Missouri House of Representatives (MHR)** estimate the impact of the legislation will first be realized in FY 2023, which is beyond the scope of the fiscal note. Estimated annual savings in today's dollar is approximately \$3.5 million from 43 fewer members.

**Oversight** assumes the savings to the MHR from this proposal is beyond the scope of the fiscal note and therefore the savings will not be reflected.

In response to a similar proposal from this year (HJR 53), officials from the **Missouri Senate (SEN)** stated this proposal would increase the size of the Senate by increasing the number of members from 34 to 40 effective January 1, 2023. This would increase the cost of the Senate by \$1.4 million.

**Oversight** assumes the cost to the SEN from this proposal is beyond the scope of the fiscal note and therefore the cost will not be reflected.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Transfer Out</u> - Office of the Secretary of State - reimbursement of local election authorities for election costs if a special election is called	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,100,000</u> )	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND*</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,100,000</u>)</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

\* Potential savings from a smaller General Assembly is beyond the scope of this fiscal note.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES</b>			
<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 <u>\$7,100,000</u> )	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

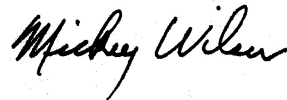
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment decreases the number of members of the House of Representatives from 163 to 120 and increases the number of members of the Senate from 34 to 40. The changes take effect beginning with the 102nd General Assembly in 2023.

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  
Missouri House of Representatives  
Missouri Senate



Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
March 12, 2014

Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
March 12, 2014