

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6396
BILL NUMBER: SB 131

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 8, 2009
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Appointment of Town Clerk-Treasurer.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Holdman
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill allows a town to change the office of clerk-treasurer from an elected office to a position appointed by a majority of the members of the town legislative body if: (1) the town legislative body adopts a resolution to put a public question on the ballot; and (2) a majority of the voters of the town vote to change the office to an appointed position. The bill provides that an appointed clerk-treasurer is an employee of the town legislative body and serves at the pleasure of the town legislative body.

The bill provides that changing the office to an appointed office may not reduce the term of an incumbent elected clerk-treasurer. The bill allows a town to change the office of clerk-treasurer from an appointed position to an elected office if: (1) the town legislative body adopts a resolution to put a public question on the ballot; and (2) a majority of the voters of the town vote to change the position to an elected office. The bill requires that an appointed clerk-treasurer must be a resident of the town.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Summary-* Ballot expenditures could be minimally reduced in counties that have optical scan voting systems and print ballot cards. If the public question were held under a special election as the bill would allow, any ballot cost savings would be reduced by the increase in expenditure required for the special election. Given that many municipal elections are run by their parent county, counties

could become involved in municipal special elections held as a result of this bill.

Background- Expenses to run an election include precinct election board per diem, rental of a facility for polling (if necessary), and/or voting equipment (if necessary). Based on a small sample of Indiana counties, per diem for election board members range from \$65 to \$160 for inspectors and from \$40 to \$100 for judges, clerks, and sheriffs.

Under current law, county election boards are required, with some exceptions, to conduct a municipal primary and election. Expenses from county-operated municipal elections are reimbursed by the municipality to the county. If the expenses of a municipal primary or election cannot be directly attributed to a single municipality, the expenses are apportioned 25% to the county and 75% to the municipalities in the county holding an election.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Municipalities, counties.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.