

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6507

BILL NUMBER: SB 161

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 31, 2011

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Ballot Placement of Public Questions.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Mrvan

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires that local public questions be placed on a primary election ballot after the voting instructions and before the offices with candidates for nomination. It requires that public questions be placed on a general election ballot after the voting instructions and before the offices on the ballot.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Placing public questions first in the order on optical scan ballots would likely have a minimal fiscal impact on ballot printing costs for ballot card voting systems. Ballot cards cost about \$0.32 apiece.

Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) systems would require minimal programing changes to accomplish the objective of the bill. Two of the most common touchscreen DRE systems, the MicroVote Infinity and the ES&S iVotronic, allow offices, judicial retention, and public questions to be programmed in any order desired. With respect to the Infinity, simple ‘click and drags’ within the existing software interface can achieve any ballot order. Although they are being phased out of general use, the MicroVote MV464 can also be programmed to have public questions placed at the front of the ballot.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources: Circuit court clerk's offices of Boone County, Vanderburgh County, Franklin County, Shelby County, and Hamilton County; Steve Shamo, MicroVote, 317-414-2780.

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