

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0109-01
Bill No.: SJR 1
Subject: Boards, Commissions, Committees, Councils; Conservation Department;
 Constitutional Amendments; Fishing and Hunting
Type: Original
Date: February 3, 2015

Bill Summary: Would propose a constitutional amendment modifying the membership composition and terms of service of the commissioners on the Conservation Commission.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Conservation Commission	\$0	\$0 or Up to (\$90,740)	\$0 or Up to (\$90,740)
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0 or Up to (\$90,740)	\$0 or Up to (\$90,740)

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 7 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Local Government*	\$0	\$0	\$0

* Potential expenses and reimbursements netting to zero in FY 2016 if a special election is called by the Governor.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

SJR 1: Conservation Commission Membership Composition:

Officials from the **Department of Conservation (MDC)** assumes this proposal would double travel and other expenses to MDC since it increases the membership of the Commission from four to eight members.

MDC notes in FY14 Conservation Commission member expenses were \$22,971; however, this number is lower than the estimated expenses in FY15 because for part of the year there were only 3 members. In FY 13, Conservation Commission member expenses totaled \$25,290. Expenses categories included instate travel, rentals, services, supplies, and other.

Conservation Commission Expenses FY13:

Instate Travel	\$7,850
Rentals	\$1,835
Services	\$1,222
Supplies	\$14,293
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$90</u>
Total	\$25,290

Oversight notes according to the Office of the State Auditor report “State Flight Operations” issued January 2015, MDC flight costs for the Conservation Commissioners were approximately \$117,000 over 2 years ending June 30, 2013. The State Auditor notes MDC chartered 22 flights. Of those 22 flights, 11 were to provide transportation for Conservation Commission members, former commission members, and MDC employees. The total cost of MDC charter flights for Conservation Commissioners over the same two year period was \$13,900.

Oversight assumes costs up to \$25,290 for the expenses of 4 new Conservation Commissioners based upon the expense costs of the 4 current Conservation Commissioners.

Oversight also assumes the annual flight costs for four additional Conservation Commission members would be based upon the annual flight costs of the current Conservation Commission members. Annual flight costs will be shown up to \$58,500 on state planes and up to \$6,950 for charter flights to the Conservation Commission Fund.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Oversight notes this proposal requires voter approval of the Joint Resolution as well as the appointment and confirmation of the additional Conservation Commission members, costs to the Conservation Commission Fund would begin no earlier than FY17.

Estimated Additional Conservation Commission Expenses in FY17, and FY18:

Expenses	Up to (\$25,290)
State Flights	Up to (\$58,500)
<u>Charter Flights</u>	<u>Up to (\$6,950)</u>
Total	Up to (\$90,740)

Oversight will range the fiscal impact from \$0 (the SJR is not approved by the voters) or up to the \$90,740 estimate for four additional Conservation Commissioners.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** stated that each year, a number of joint resolutions which would refer to a vote of the people a constitutional amendment and bills which 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.

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, state law requires the state to pay the costs. The cost of a special election has been estimated to be \$7.1 million based on the cost of the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary.

The SOS is required to pay for publishing in local newspapers the full text of each statewide ballot measure, and the SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. Funding for these publications 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.

Through FY 2013, the appropriation was 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).

ASSUMPTION (continued)

In FY 2015, the General Assembly changed the appropriation so that it was no longer an estimated appropriation and the SOS was appropriated \$1.19 million to publish the full text of the measures. In FY 2015, at the August and November elections, there were 9 statewide Constitutional Amendments or ballot propositions that cost \$1.1 million to publish (an average of \$122,000 per issue). The SOS reduced the scope of publication for these measures. Despite the FY 2015 reduction, the SOS will continue to assume, for the purposes of this fiscal note, that it should have the full appropriation authority it needs to meet the publishing requirements. Because these publications are mandatory, the SOS reserves the right to request funding to meet the cost of our publishing requirements.

Oversight has reflected in this fiscal note the cost for the state to potentially reimburse local political subdivisions for the cost of having this proposed constitutional change voted on during a special election in fiscal year 2016. This reflects the decision made by the Joint Committee on Legislative Research, that the potential cost of elections should be reflected in the fiscal note. The next scheduled statewide primary is in August 2016 and the next scheduled general election is in November 2016 (FY 2017). It is assumed the subject within this proposal could be on one of these ballots; 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 2016.

Officials from the **Office of Governor** assume there should be no added cost to the Governor's Office as a result of this measure. However, if additional duties are placed on the office related to appointments in other TAFP legislation, there may be the need for additional staff resources in future years.

Officials from the **Missouri Senate** and **Missouri House of Representatives** each assume the proposal would not fiscally impact their respective agencies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
GENERAL REVENUE			
<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>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,100,000</u>)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
CONSERVATION COMMISSION			
<u>Costs</u> - MDC			
Additional Four Conservation Commission Members	<u>\$0</u>	\$0 or Up to <u>(\$90,740)</u>	\$0 or Up to <u>(\$90,740)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FUND	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0 or Up to (\$90,740)</u>	<u>\$0 or Up to (\$90,740)</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES			
<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>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

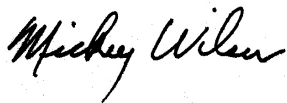
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment increases the membership of the state's Conservation Commission from four to eight and requires members to be appointed from each of the eight conservation regions as such regions have been designated as of December 1, 2011. This proposed constitutional amendment also limits the time a member may serve on the commission to the earlier of either two terms or twelve years.

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

Department of Conservation
Office of Secretary of State
Office of Governor
Missouri Senate
Missouri House of Representatives



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
February 3, 2015

Ross Strope
Assistant Director
February 3, 2015