



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

**Bill:** S.J.R. 5 of the 128th G.A.

**Date:** May 4, 2009

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Sen. Husted

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No — Not required for joint resolutions

**Contents:** Proposes a ballot initiative to revise the General Assembly and Congressional redistricting process

### State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND	FY 2010	FY 2011	FUTURE YEARS
<b>Controlling Board – GRF</b>			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Transfer-out to Secretary of State, depending on amount requested	- 0 -	- 0 -
<b>Secretary of State – Corporate and Uniform Commercial Code Filing Fund (Fund 5990)</b>			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Increase to pay for ballot advertising costs	- 0 -	- 0 -

Note: The state fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. For example, FY 2010 is July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

- Should the resolution be adopted and the measure appear on the ballot for the November 3, 2009 general election, the state would incur costs for the required newspaper advertising. The overall increase would depend on the length of the ballot measure. These costs are paid for by GRF transfers authorized by the Controlling Board to the Secretary of State's Corporate and Uniform Commercial Code Filing Fund (Fund 5990).

### Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

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## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

### Redistricting changes

The resolution proposes changes to the Ohio Constitution that alter the redistricting process for General Assembly and Congressional districts, beginning in calendar year 2011. If approved by the voters, the current Apportionment Board would be replaced with a Redistricting Commission. The Commission would consist of seven members and be responsible for redrawing General Assembly and Congressional districts based upon the results of the decennial census. Initially, four members would be appointed, one each by the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, the President of the Ohio Senate, and the minority leaders of both chambers. In turn, these four members would be responsible for selecting the remaining three members. If the four appointed members cannot agree on the selections, the resolution provides for an alternative appointment process. To be adopted, any redistricting plan would require a supermajority of five votes, with a vote needed from a member of each political party appointed by the House and Senate leadership and a vote from at least one of the additional three appointees.

### Ballot advertising costs

The Secretary of State would incur costs for ballot advertising under Article XVI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution, which requires that notice of ballot questions be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in each Ohio county. The costs of advertising would also depend on the length of the amendment proposed by this resolution. As a recent example, the combined newspaper advertising costs for Issues 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6, which appeared on the November 4, 2008 general election ballot, were \$631,629. Because it is a single issue, the redistricting language would presumably cost considerably less than that amount to advertise statewide.

H.B. 1, the pending main operating budget bill for FY 2010–FY 2011, changes the funding mechanism by which the Secretary of State pays for ballot advertising costs. The current process requires the Secretary of State to submit a Controlling Board request to transfer the amount needed to cover advertising costs from GRF appropriation item 911441, Ballot Advertising Costs, to the Corporate and Uniform Commercial Code Filing Fund (Fund 5990), the Secretary of State's main operating fund. H.B. 1 would change this process slightly by directing the Controlling Board transfers to a new fund, the Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0).