

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

S.B. 107 (l_136_0630-2) 136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Click here for S.B. 107's Bill Analysis

Version: In Senate General Government

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Brenner

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: Yes

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Highlights

• Under the bill, some county boards of elections (BOEs) may need to hold political primaries when they otherwise would not need to hold a primary election. The cost of an additional primary in odd-numbered years will vary across BOEs.

Detailed Analysis

The bill requires candidates for the office of member of the State Board of Education, member of a school district board of education, and member of the governing board of an educational service center (ESC) to be nominated by primary election and to appear on the general election ballot with a political party designation.

In even number years, the bill does not appear to have any fiscal impact on the Secretary of State or county boards of elections. There is unlikely to be any cost for indicating party affiliation on a ballot. These would appear with all other partisan offices which are listed first on the ballot, followed by nonpartisan offices and ballot issues, as shown in the LSC bill analysis. Neither the state nor boards of elections would face additional costs for changing the order of these races on future ballots.

However, in odd-numbered years, some county boards of elections (BOEs) may need to hold primary elections that would otherwise not be necessary because of the bill. Any resulting primary election costs would vary across BOEs, and largely depend on the size of the school district in question. Partisan primaries may only be needed in odd-numbered years if a party has more candidates than number of nominations for a political office. Under current law, nonpartisan primaries are held only if there are more than two candidates for each position to be filled. For instance, a primary would be held if seven candidates ran in for six nonpartisan positions.

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