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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.J.R. 1
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.J.R. 1's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Blessing

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- If the General Assembly adopts this joint resolution, the Secretary of State will incur ballot advertising costs related to placing the proposed changes to the Ohio Constitution on the November 3, 2026 statewide ballot. These costs will be paid from the Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0).

Detailed Analysis

The joint resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to appear on the November 3, 2026 general election ballot. It amends Section 2 of Article II and Sections 1, 3, 4, and 5 of Article XI of the Constitution of the state of Ohio to increase the membership of the General Assembly to 51 senators and 153 representatives beginning January 1, 2033.

Should the General Assembly adopt the resolution and the issue is placed on the statewide ballot, the state would pay the ballot advertising costs. The costs for ballot advertising, including explanations and arguments for and against a statewide ballot issue, are paid for under the Secretary of State's (SOS) budget, specifically Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0) line item 050621, Statewide Ballot Advertising. Fund 5FH0 receives cash transfers from the Controlling Board Emergency Purposes/Contingencies Fund (Fund 5KM0).

The actual advertising cost for placing the proposed constitutional amendment on the statewide ballot depends on the length of the ballot measure, explanations, and arguments for and against, all of which must be included in printed advertising. In FY 2025, the SOS paid approximately \$405,000 in statewide ballot advertising costs for State Issue 1, which appeared on the November 5, 2024 ballot. In FY 2024, the SOS paid approximately \$380,000 in statewide ballot advertising costs related to both State Issue 1 and State Issue 2, which appeared on the November 7, 2023 ballot.