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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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H.B. 471
135th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 471's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Creech and King

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- County boards of elections may incur additional costs to determine the validity or invalidity of a person's candidacy and required filings due to an indeterminable increase of protests.

Detailed Analysis

County boards of elections may incur additional costs to determine the validity or invalidity of a person's candidacy and required filings, resulting from an increase of protests, the magnitude of which is unknown. The bill allows *any* elector who is eligible to vote for an office at the general election to file a protest against a primary candidate for that office on certain grounds. Current law specifies that the eligible voter filing the protest be of the same political party as the candidate. The party's controlling committee may also do so under current law. Continuing law requires any protest to be filed in writing with the election officials by 4:00 p.m. on the 74th day before the primary election (the 67th day for a write-in candidate). After a protest, the election officials must hold a hearing to determine if a candidate's filing is to be rejected. The bill does not change protests against an independent or nonpartisan candidate or a candidate of a newly formed political party, as they may be challenged by any elector who is eligible to vote for the office on any available ground.