

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

122nd General Assembly of Ohio

BILL: H.B. 463 DATE: July 23, 1997

STATUS: As Reported by the House Criminal Justice Committee SPONSOR: Rep. Mason

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: Yes

CONTENTS: Creates one additional full-time judgeship for the Franklin County Municipal Court

State Fiscal Highlights

| STATE FUND | CY 1998 | CY 1999 | CY 2000 | POST CY 2000 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| General Revenue Fund | | | | |
| Revenues | - 0 - | - 0 - | - 0 - | - 0 - |
| Expenditures | \$49,060 | \$58,300 | \$67,860 | \$77,700 |

- Currently, the state has statutorily prescribed pay increases for municipal court judges through calendar year 2001. These increases are calculated based on the population of the court's territory and the previous year's salary. The state is expected to contribute the above sums, which include the contribution for PERS (at 13.31% of gross salary) and other administrative costs (at 2.4% of gross salary).

Local Fiscal Highlights

| LOCAL FUNDS | CY 1998 | CY 1999 | CY 2000 | POST CY 2000 |
|---|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| City of Columbus & Franklin County | | | | |
| Revenues | - 0 - | - 0 - | - 0 - | - 0 - |
| Expenditures | \$78,999 | \$78,999 | \$78,999 | \$78,999 |

- The above shows the increased expenditures faced by the City of Columbus and Franklin County, including the contribution for PERS (at 13.55% of gross salary). The city pays 3/5's of the salary and benefits while the county provides for the other 2/5's. This amount doesn't reflect the additional staff costs borne by the city. The City of Columbus has planned for expending approximately \$300,000 for seven support staff.



Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Full-time Judges

Salaries for full-time municipal court judges may consist of three components: a base of \$51,750 (paid by local governments), a per capita share (also paid by local governments) and a base share (paid by the state). The local share can be no more than the lesser of three thousand less than the compensation of a judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Franklin County or \$61,750. The localities will provide for a total of \$61,750. The state paid share varies according to county population (eighteen cents per capita) and the previous year's salary. Yearly pay increases have been scheduled into the O.R.C through the year 2001. Since the Franklin County Municipal Court is a jointly operated court, the county provides for two-fifths of the local cost of the judge's salary and benefits while the City of Columbus provides for the remaining three-fifths.

PERS estimate

State and local elected officials are exempt from membership in PERS (Public Employees Retirement System), unless they choose to become members. However, most do. Therefore, this analysis includes includes PERS payments assuming that the Franklin County Municipal Court Judge joins PERS. The state contributes at the rate of 13.31% of gross salary, while the county pays 13.55%. In addition to PERS, the state also makes contributions for other purposes: 1.45% of gross salary for Medicare for all employees hired after April 1986, 0.67% for worker's compensation, and 0.28% for the administration of the Central Accounting System. These costs have also been included in the State Fiscal Highlights section.

Additional Local Costs

A full-time judge should create additional costs for the city for increased staff and/or equipment required to serve the needs of a full-time judge. LBO contacted the court and was informed that there would be such additional costs for the court directly related to the additional judge. The city will be fiscally responsible for all new staff and equipment and will allocate approximately \$315,000 for these needs. Seven support personnel will be hired to accommodate the operation of the court with the additional judge.

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