
Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Provisions of the Bill

The bill permits a candidate defeated in a primary election to be a candidate at the following general election for certain types of nonpartisan offices. These offices include: State Board of Education member, board of education member at the local level, member of a governing board of an educational service center, and township trustee.

The bill also creates in statute the term “political contributing entity” and makes such an entity subject to certain reporting requirements and contribution limitations of the Campaign Finance Law and certain provisions of the Elections Law.

Fiscal Effects

Currently, the bill has no direct fiscal effect on the state. However, a case pending before the Ohio Supreme Court could create additional costs for the office of the Secretary of State (SOS), if the Court rules that Labor organizations can use funds from their treasuries to make political contributions. If the Court in this case, or in a future case, ruled in such a fashion, then Labor organizations would fit the definition of a “political contributing entity” as defined in the bill. In that case, Labor organizations would have to file certain reports required by the Campaign Finance and Election Laws. This could mean additional costs for the SOS to process and audit such reports. This could also mean additional revenues from any filing fees charge for filing such reports. Both the potential costs and revenues could be minimal.

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