

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

123rd General Assembly of Ohio

BILL: Sub. H.B. 356 **DATE:** June 23, 1999

STATUS: As Reported by House Local Government and Townships **SPONSOR:** Rep. Cates

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: No — Permissive

CONTENTS: Authorizes a board of township trustees or the electors of an unincorporated township to submit a proposed name change for the township to the electors

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 1999	FY 2000	FUTURE YEARS
Townships			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	- 0 -	Potential \$150 increase	Potential \$150 or more increase in odd-numbered years
Counties			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	- 0 -	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase in even-numbered years

Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calendar year. The school district fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

- Townships that choose to submit a name change proposal to the ballot could incur advertising costs of about \$150.
- There could be a minimal increase in the cost of printing ballots if a name change proposal is added. In even-numbered years this cost would be paid by the county, and in odd-numbered years it would be paid by the township.



Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill authorizes a board of township trustees or the electors of an unincorporated township to submit a proposed name change for the township to the electors of the unincorporated area. A question of whether a township's name should be changed must be voted on at the next general or primary election after the name change proposal is approved.

At least 45 days before the vote on the name change, the township trustees must advertise the question of the name change in a newspaper in the township for three consecutive weeks and must post an explanation at five conspicuous places in the township. Any name change does not alter the rights or liabilities of a township as previously named.

Townships that choose to submit a name change proposal to the ballot could incur advertising costs of about \$150. There could also be a minimal increase in the cost of printing ballots if a name change proposal is added. In even-numbered years this cost would be paid by the county, and in odd-numbered years it would be paid by the township (ORC 3501.17).

If voters approve a name change, the township must notify the Secretary of State (SOS) and the State and Local Government Commission (SLG) about the change. A township could incur minimal costs to make this notification. SOS and SLG could incur minimal costs to change their records to reflect the name change.

□ *LBO staff: Alexander C. Heckman, Budget/Policy Analyst*

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