



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Terry Steele

## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

**Bill:** S.B. 191 of the 128th G.A.

**Date:** November 30, 2009

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Sens. Schuring and Grendell

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No — Minimal cost

**Contents:** Imposes certain new reporting requirements for campaign committees

### State Fiscal Highlights

#### STATE FUND

#### FY 2010 – FUTURE YEARS

##### Secretary of State – GRF

Revenues - 0 -

Expenditures Potential increase in campaign finance report processing costs

##### Ohio Elections Commission – GRF and Fund 4P20

Revenues Potential minimal gain in fines (Fund 4P20)

Expenditures Potential minimal increase for hearing complaints (GRF and Fund 4P20)

Note: The state fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. For example, FY 2010 is July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

- The bill requires each campaign committee that receives a contribution from an individual that exceeds \$100 to identify the individual's employer on the campaign committee's campaign finance statements. This could result in some small increases in processing costs for the Secretary of State.
- If the Secretary of State forwards any complaints stemming from violations of the bill, this could result in some new hearing costs for the Ohio Elections Commission. These costs would be borne entirely or partially by either the GRF or the Ohio Elections Commission Fund (Fund 4P20). Depending on the circumstances, the Ohio Elections Commission could impose a fine, the proceeds of which would be deposited in Fund 4P20.

# Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FY 2010 – FUTURE YEARS

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## County Boards of Elections

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Revenues

- 0 -

Expenditures

Potential increase in campaign finance report processing costs

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

- The bill could result in some additional processing cost increases for county boards of elections to handle the new reporting.
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## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

There may be some additional costs to the Secretary of State's Office and to county boards of elections to ensure that the information required under the bill is present on all campaign finance disclosure forms. These costs are likely to be minimal. The Campaign Finance section of the Secretary of State's Elections Division is responsible for handling all campaign finance filings and would most likely handle all filings related to campaign finance for statewide offices. The Elections Division is funded through the Secretary of State's GRF appropriation item 050321, Operating Expenses.

The Ohio Elections Commission has the authority to hear and rule on complaints forwarded by the Secretary of State. The Elections Commission is funded by a combination of GRF and a portion of candidate and issue filing fees deposited into the Elections Commission Fund (Fund 4P20). The additional complaints forwarded to the Ohio Elections Commission as a result of this new reporting requirement are likely to be few in number. Any new fines imposed as a result of violations would also be deposited into Fund 4P20.

County boards of elections generally receive campaign finance statements for all nonstatewide candidates. Therefore, county boards of elections could incur some minimal cost increases for processing these statements with the additional information required under the bill.