



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Terry Steele

## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

**Bill:** S.J.R. 8 of the 128th G.A.

**Date:** January 11, 2010

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Sens. Goodman and Hughes

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No — Not required for joint resolutions

**Contents:** Proposes a constitutional amendment concerning approval of casino gambling by electors in certain counties

### State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND	FY 2010	FY 2011	FUTURE YEARS
<b>Controlling Board – GRF</b>			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Transfer-out to Secretary of State, depending on amount requested	- 0 -	- 0 -
<b>Secretary of State – Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0)</b>			
Revenues	GRF Transfer-in from Controlling Board	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Increase to pay for ballot advertising costs	- 0 -	- 0 -

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

- Should the measure appear on the ballot for the May 4, 2010 primary, the state would incur costs for the required newspaper advertising. The overall increase would depend on the length of the ballot measure. These costs are paid for by GRF transfers authorized by the Controlling Board to the Secretary of State's Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0).
- The state would not incur any new election costs since this issue would be placed on the ballot on a regularly scheduled primary election date.

### Local Fiscal Highlights

- Since this issue would be placed on the May 4, 2010 ballot, a regularly scheduled primary election date, counties could incur some small additional expense to put this item on the ballot.

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## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The resolution proposes an amendment to Section 6 of Article XV of the Ohio Constitution, to be put to voters at the May 4, 2010 primary, to alter the process by which casino gaming may be conducted in counties. If approved by the voters, the General Assembly would be required to enact laws to authorize the submission of a question to electors on whether to approve casino gaming in a county before casino gaming could take place in that county. This would only apply to the four locations in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, and Lucas counties that were included in the casino ballot measure approved in the November 3, 2009 general election.

The Secretary of State incurs costs for ballot advertising under Article XVI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution, which requires that notice of ballot questions be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in each Ohio county. The cost would depend on the length of the amendment proposed by this resolution. As a recent example, the combined newspaper advertising costs for Issues 1, 2, and 3, which appeared on the November 3, 2009 general election ballot, were \$567,095. These costs are paid from Secretary of State appropriation item 050621, Statewide Ballot Advertising, and are supported by GRF transfers from the Controlling Board.

This issue would be placed on the May 4, 2010 primary. Because this is a regularly scheduled primary, the cost of adding this question to the ballot would be borne entirely by counties. The cost of adding an additional measure to the ballot in this case would be minimal, if not negligible, for most counties. The state would not incur any new election costs other than that of advertising.