



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Terry Steele

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [S.B. 284 of the 129th G.A.](#)

Date: March 20, 2012

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sen. Jordan

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Eliminates special elections in February and August

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill reduces the number of times per year that a political subdivision or taxing district may place an election on the ballot by eliminating special elections in February and August. The result is that special elections would only be permitted on primary or general election days. Removing the ability to conduct special elections in February and August could thus reduce overall election costs for political subdivisions and taxing districts.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill eliminates the ability of political subdivisions or taxing districts to conduct special elections in the months of February and August. When a political subdivision or taxing district conducts a special election in February or August, it is responsible for paying all the costs of holding the election. The most recent cost estimate from the Secretary of State for conducting a special election, based upon the composite average of special election costs for congressional special elections held between 2006 and 2008, is \$1,026 per precinct. However, the cost per precinct varies based upon the number of registered voters in a precinct. In the Secretary of State's estimate cited above, urban precincts had costs of up to approximately \$1,600, while some rural precincts had costs below \$1,000. The overall cost of a special election depends on the number of precincts that are required to be open to hold the election. Removing the ability to conduct February and August special elections means that political subdivisions or taxing districts would no longer incur these costs.