



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Terry Steele

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [H.B. 73 of the 130th G.A.](#)

Date: April 9, 2013

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Rep. Anielski

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Allows nonchartered villages to reduce the number of members of their legislative authority at special elections and declares an emergency

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill revises current law that allows nonchartered villages to reduce the number of members of the village's legislative authority by placing the question on the ballot at the next regular municipal election, held in November of odd-numbered years. The bill allows this question to be placed on the ballot on the day of a special election, potentially advancing the timeline for when the question can be submitted to the voters and a reduced-member legislative authority can subsequently be elected.
- Under the current process for paying for elections, a nonchartered village would be responsible for paying the cost of a special election if this particular question were the only item on the ballot. Consequently, the more likely case is that such questions would be placed on the next upcoming primary or general election ballot.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Current law permits a nonchartered village to adopt an ordinance or resolution that reduces the number of members of the legislative authority from six to five. Once a nonchartered village council adopts such an ordinance or resolution, the question is submitted to the voters at the next regular municipal election, which occurs in November of odd-numbered years. The bill permits such a village to submit this question to the voters at a special election instead of waiting for a municipal general election. This potentially advances the timeline for the reduction, allowing the subsequent election of a reduced-member village council at the next general election. To allow for this process to occur in 2013, the bill declares an emergency.

Under the current method for apportioning election costs, a nonchartered village is required to pay all the expenses associated with conducting a special election if such an issue is the only item on the ballot during that election. Consequently, to avoid costs a nonchartered village would presumably wait until the next primary or general election to place such a question on the ballot. There are approximately 634 nonchartered statutory villages in Ohio according to the 2010-2011 Ohio Municipal, Township and School Board Roster produced by the Secretary of State.

The bill also clarifies the process used by nonchartered villages to switch from electing members of their legislative authority from staggered terms to nonstaggered terms. This change does not appear to have any fiscal effect.