

MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

DATE: September 19, 2019

Original Fiscal Note

Substitute Fiscal Note

SUBJECT: A resolution providing for an advisory referendum on the April 7, 2020, election ballot to measure public opinion on whether the Wisconsin Legislature should create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of the Legislative and Congressional district plans and maps

FISCAL EFFECT:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Direct County Fiscal Impact
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing Staff Time Required
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Expenditures
(If checked, check one of two boxes below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Absorbed Within Agency's Budget
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget

<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Expenditures

<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Operating Revenues

<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Operating Revenues | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Expenditures

<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Expenditures

<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Capital Revenues

<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Capital Revenues

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of contingent funds |
|--|---|

Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.

	Expenditure or Revenue Category	Current Year	Subsequent Year
Operating Budget	Expenditure	\$15,000	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$15,000	\$0
Capital Improvement Budget	Expenditure	\$0	\$0
	Revenue	\$0	\$0
	Net Cost	\$0	\$0

DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

- A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.
 - B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated. ¹ If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.
 - C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.
 - D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.
- A. Approval of this resolution calls for an advisory referendum to be held on April 7, 2020, asking voters: Should the Wisconsin Legislature create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of Legislative and Congressional district plans and maps?
 - B. This estimate is derived from the costs of a previous referendum as provided and confirmed by Election Commission staff. It is estimated to cost approximately \$15,000 to add an advisory referendum question to the April 7, 2020, County-wide ballot. This estimate is based on the cost of printing ballots, programming election machines, and the required newspaper advertising related to the referendum question. Milwaukee County, according to Election Commission staff, is responsible for all costs related to federal, state, and county contests. A precise cost calculation is not possible since many factors influence the actual cost of each contest (i.e. election or referendum question) including ballot printing (actual size of ballot, number of columns, and whether it is one or two-sided), election machine programming and advertising expenses.
 - C. The budgetary impact is expected to increase the expenditures of the Election Commission by approximately \$15,000 due to the addition of the advisory referendum. Election Commission staff, historically, have sought fund transfers from the Appropriation for Contingencies for any costs that could not be absorbed within their Adopted Budget (The County Clerk now oversees the Election Commission). This resolution authorizes the advisory referendum and acknowledges that a transfer of funds from Org. Unit 1800-1945 – Appropriation for

¹ If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

² Community Business Development Partners' review is required on all professional service and public work construction contracts.

Contingencies may be necessary sometime in 2020 to cover the costs associated with adding the referendum. The request for these funds would be after the election is held if the Election Commission staff require additional funds to pay election expenses for the remainder of the year. The release of the funds would be subject to policymaker approval.

- D. The assumptions used for this fiscal note were based on a cost estimate provided by the Election Commission and reviewed by the County Clerk. Please note that the Election Commission, by law, must receive the notice of a referendum, for the April 7, 2020 Spring general election 70 days in advance, or January 28, 2020.

Department/Prepared By Ken Smith, Research and Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller

Authorized Signature *Ken Smith*

Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review? Yes No

Did CBDP Review?² Yes No Not Required