

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 162 – HB 506

May 26, 2009

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (008502, 008516): Transfers the duties of the Tennessee Ethics Commission to the Registry of Election Finance if the Ethics Commission automatically terminates and ceases to exist on June 30, 2009, and changes the Commission's name to the Tennessee Ethics and Election Registry Commission; removes redundant language regarding complaints for violations.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$25,000/One-Time
Decrease State Expenditures - \$338,000/Recurring

Other Fiscal Impact – Transfers funding and staff from the Ethics Commission to the Registry of Election Finance if the Ethics Commission is allowed to terminate on June 30, 2009. The Registry would take over those functions that are currently being performed by the Ethics Commission such as registration of lobbyists and employers of lobbyists, collection and review of annual financial disclosure of interest statements, enforcement, ethics training, and issuing informal responses and formal advisory opinions. Nine staff positions are attached to the Ethics Commission with a budget of \$895,000 for FY09-10. Merging the two offices is expected to result in an overall cost savings to the state of approximately \$313,000.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumption applied to amendments:

- The estimated fiscal impact of the bill will not change as a result of the proposed amendments.

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CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

/rct