

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 13 – HB 59

January 20, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Removes Greene County from the list of counties exempt from the transfer of probate jurisdiction from the county clerk to the clerk and master.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase Local Expenditures - \$20,000/One-Time*
\$36,800/Recurring***

Assumptions:

- If Greene County's exemption is removed, probate jurisdiction will be transferred from the Greene County Clerk to the Greene County Clerk and Master.
- According to the Greene County Clerk and Master, one-time startup costs include computer support totaling \$14,892 (\$13,557 for document imaging software, \$885 for a computer workstation, and \$450 for training) and initial office set-up costs totaling \$5,000 (office equipment, dedicated phone line, and storage units) resulting in an estimated one-time increase in local expenditures of \$19,892 (\$14,892 + \$5,000).
- According to the Greene County Clerk, the Greene County Commission could transfer one full-time position and related office supplies budget from the clerk's office to the clerk and master's office.
- According to the Greene County Clerk and Master, one additional full-time position (\$20,000 salary and \$6,800 benefits) and one part-time position (\$10,000) are necessary to fulfill the statutory requirements imposed on probate clerks. Estimated recurring local government expenditures are \$36,800 (\$20,000 + \$6,800 + \$10,000).

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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