

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 297 - HB 898

March 8, 2013

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires that any nomination for judge, chancellor, district attorney general, or public defender in a judicial district encompassing more than one county to be determined by primary election.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Other Fiscal Impact – Counties that currently hold primary elections will not experience a change in local expenditures; however, these permissive local expenditures under current law will change to mandatory expenditures under the provisions of this bill. In counties where primaries are not currently held, the average mandatory increase in local expenditures will exceed \$25,000 per county per election.\* The next primary election will be held in FY13-14.**

Assumptions:

- Currently, holding a primary election is permissive for these offices. In 2006, there were 42 counties that called for a primary and in 2010 there were 52 counties that called for a primary.
- Expenditures for these counties will change from permissive to mandatory.
- Based on information provided by the Division of Elections, counties that will now be required to hold primary elections will experience an increase in local government expenditures exceeding \$25,000 per county per election. The next primary election will be held in May of 2014.

*\*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 black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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