

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1817 - SB 1823

February 9, 2020

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires a court ordering the expunction of a criminal offense to determine if the petitioner is then eligible to vote under state and federal law. Requires the court to issue a certificate of voting rights restoration with written explanation and forward a copy of the certificate to the Coordinator of Elections. Authorizes a person to use their certificate of voting rights restoration to apply for and receive a voter registration card.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-20-112, upon conviction for any felony, it shall be the judgment of the court that the defendant be infamous and be immediately disqualified from exercising the right of suffrage.
- Currently, a person must petition a court to have the person's rights of citizenship, including voting, restored.
- The proposed legislation would require the court ordering the expunction to determine if the person is eligible to vote, shifting the burden of determination.
- Restoration of voting rights for such persons will not result in any significant fiscal impact to state or local government.
- Any increase in workload to the courts or the Coordinator of Elections can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.

**CERTIFICATION:**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jmg