

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HJR 686**

January 25, 2020

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Resolves that the bust of Nathan Bedford Forrest be removed from the State Capitol and be replaced with the bust of another Tennessean.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$61,400/FY20-21/State Capitol Commission**

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 4-1-412(b) prohibits any memorial regarding a historic conflict, historic entity, historic event, historic figure, or historic organization that is, or is located on, public property, from being removed, renamed, relocated, altered, rededicated, or otherwise disturbed or altered, unless a public entity exercising control of the memorial petitions the Tennessee Historical Commission (THC) for a waiver of such prohibition.
- A notice of the petition is required to be published on the website of the public entity and in at least two newspapers. The THC is required to conduct initial and final hearings on the petition during regularly-scheduled THC meetings. Any petition that fails to receive a two-thirds vote shall be denied.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-8-302, the State Capitol Commission (SCC) has the power and duty to, among other things, establish policy governing maintenance of the state capitol.
- For the purposes of this fiscal analysis it is assumed that the SCC panel and subsequently the THC will approve a similar measure to remove the bust and replace it with the bust of another Tennessean.
- Based on responses to the 2017 Local Government Survey conducted by the Fiscal Review Committee staff, participating local government officials reported the average cost for a newspaper notification is \$114. The total one-time cost of publishing a notice of the petition in two newspapers is estimated to be \$228 (\$114 x 2).
- Based on information provided by the Department of General Services regarding previous costs of statue relocations, it is estimated that the proposed relocation of the bust from the state capitol to its new destination would result in a one-time increase in state expenditures to the SCC of \$3,500.
- The cost of design, creation, and installation of a new bust is unknown. However, the 2014 Appropriation Act, Public Chapter 919, included \$25,000 for the Davy Crockett

bust, and the 2015 Appropriation Act, Public Chapter 427, included an additional \$35,000, for a total of \$60,000.

- According to the SCC, total expenditures by the SCC on the David Crockett Monument were \$57,647. Based on this information, it is reasonably assumed that the one-time cost of the new bust would be identical to that amount, or \$57,647.
- A one-time increase in state expenditures to the SCC in FY20-21 of \$61,375 (\$228 + \$3,500 + \$57,647).

**CERTIFICATION:**

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



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jdb