

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HJR 813

February 21, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Suggests that the State Capitol Commission (SCC) consider the following:

- Identifying each Civil War monument in the Capitol and on its surrounding grounds;
- Installing appropriate signage near or make additions to the monuments which provide historical and modern context for the monument. The signage or additions should provide an accurate and balanced view of the monument; and
- Erecting a monument celebrating a person or event related to the Civil Rights Movement in Tennessee or the United States near such Civil War monuments that is similar in size and construction to the Civil War monuments. Such monuments should contain signage or inscriptions providing historical and modern context for the monument with an accurate and balanced view of the monument.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$515,500/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 install additional signage, and erect several Civil Rights monuments.

- There are two busts, one of Nathan Bedford Forrest and one of Andrew Johnson in the Capitol.
- 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 one new bust would be identical to that amount, or \$57,647.
- For two busts to be placed near the existing busts, a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$115,294 ($\$57,647 \times 2$)
- There is one statue of Andrew Johnson on the Capitol grounds.
- To build a similar statue depicting a Civil Rights leader, a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$350,000.
- There is one plaque commemorating the Daughters of the Confederacy.
- To purchase a similar plaque, a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$10,000.
- A metal marker will be needed, each, for 4 busts, 2 plaques, and 2 statues, or 8 metal markers in total.
- Each metal marker will cost approximately \$5,000.
- A one-time increase in state expenditures for eight metal markers of \$40,000 ($8 \times \$5,000$).
- 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 ($\114×2).
- The total one-time increase in state expenditures is \$515,522 ($\$115,294 + \$350,000 + \$10,000 + \$40,000 + \228).
- Any increase in state expenditures to prepare and transmit copies of this resolution to the appropriate individuals will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

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



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jdb