



February 26, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (014275): Prohibits the county legislative body (CLB) from adopting a budget that reduces the budget of the county mayor's office below the budgeted amount for the previous fiscal year for certain office-related expenditures, unless approved by the mayor.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$10,000/FY25-26 and Subsequent Years*

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-9-401, all funds used in operation of county government shall be appropriated by the CLB.
- The proposed legislation would prohibit a CLB from reducing the county mayor's budget below the budgeted amount for the previous fiscal year for: office personnel salaries and benefits, office supplies, communication expenses, postal charges, duplicating services, professional development training, and membership dues and fees, unless approved by the county mayor.
- Based on information provided by the County Technical Assistance Service using data from FY21-22, 10 counties set mayoral office personnel budgets at an amount lower than the previous fiscal year.
- The proposed legislation would have resulted in a mandatory increase in local government expenditures of \$28,613 for FY21-22, if the county mayor did not approve a reduction.
- Future appropriations to mayoral offices cannot be predicted with certainty; however, it can be reasonably assumed that upon passage of the proposed legislation some county mayors will not approve budget reductions and CLBs will allocate additional funds to the mayor's budget in order to comply.
- Therefore, the recurring mandatory increase in local expenditures is estimated to exceed \$10,000. It is assumed that such increases will occur beginning in FY25-26 as most budgets for FY24-25 will be set before implementation of this legislation.

*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 that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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