



Legislative Council Staff

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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 24B-0004	Date:	August 26, 2024
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Weissman Sen. Hansen	Bill Status:	House Trans., Hous. & Local Govt.
		Fiscal Analyst:	Anna Gerstle 303-866-4375 anna.gerstle@coleg.gov

Bill Topic: LOCAL APPROVAL OF PROPERTY TAX INITIATIVES

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This concurrent resolution refers a constitutional amendment to voters at the 2024 general election that, if approved, requires any statewide voter initiative that affects or limits property tax revenue or spending be approved by voters in a local government jurisdiction for the statewide limit to apply to that local government. It increases state workload, and conditionally impacts state expenditures for school finance, and local government property tax revenue and expenditures.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced concurrent resolution.

Summary of Legislation

This concurrent resolution refers a constitutional amendment to voters at the 2024 general election that, if approved, requires any statewide voter initiative that affects or limits property tax revenue or spending to be approved by voters in a local government jurisdiction for the statewide limit to apply to that local government.

State Expenditures

School finance. If this concurrent resolution is approved and a future statewide voter initiative is enacted that affects or limits local property tax revenue or spending, it will impact the state share of school finance if not all school districts adopt the property tax revenue change that is approved by voters statewide. If school districts do not approve a statewide initiative that would otherwise limit their property tax revenue, the state share would decrease relative to enactment of a statewide limit without this local approval requirement. If school districts do not approve a statewide initiative that would otherwise increase their property tax revenue, the state share will increase. Exact impacts are unknown and will depend on the nature of any future statewide voter initiative and local voter decisions.

Tracking and implementation. Conditional on voter approval and the enactment of any future statewide voter initiatives affecting or limiting local property tax revenue, the resolution will likely increase state agency workload and costs to determine which statewide voter initiatives are subject to the local election requirement, monitor the local election outcomes, and track and project local property tax revenue to local governments that have and have not adopted any future statewide initiatives locally. It is unknown which agency would perform this work. The workload increase may occur in the Division of Property Taxation in the Department of Local Affairs, Legislative Council Staff, the Secretary of State's Office, another agency, or a combination of these.

Election expenditure impact — existing appropriations. This resolution includes a referred measure that will appear before voters at the November 2024 general election. While no additional appropriation is required, certain election costs are incurred by the state when ballot measures are referred. These include reimbursing counties for certain election costs; publishing the text and title of the measure in newspapers across the state; and preparing and mailing the ballot information booklet. The reimbursement to counties for election costs may increase if additional local ballot measures result in longer ballots or more frequent elections.

Local Government

Property tax revenue. The resolution conditionally impacts property tax revenue to local governments. If local voters do not approve a statewide initiative that would otherwise limit or decrease property tax revenue, the resolution will increase the revenue collected relative to the adoption of statewide initiative without the local approval requirement. If local voters do not approve a statewide initiative that would otherwise increase property tax revenue, the resolution will reduce property tax revenue.

Election costs. If voters statewide approve a voter initiative affecting property taxes, the resolution conditionally increases costs for local governments to hold separate elections for local approval of the property tax changes that was already approved statewide. It is unknown how frequently these elections will occur.

Counties. If voters statewide approve a voter initiative affecting property taxes, the resolution conditionally increases workload and costs for county assessors and treasurers to determine how to apply assessment rates and mill levies within the various jurisdictions located within the county, based on the outcome of each local election.

Expenditures. If local voters do not approve a statewide voter initiative that would otherwise have affected the spending of property tax revenue, the resolution conditionally changes the expenditures of local governments. Exact impacts depend on the contents of future statewide voter initiatives.

Effective Date

If approved by 55 percent of voters at the November 2024 election, the resolution takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties

Property Tax Division

County Clerks

Secretary of State

Municipalities

Special District Association

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).