REGULATE MARIJUANA IN A MANNER SIMILAR TO ALCOHOL TO ESTABLISH AGE, LICENSING, AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS (16-02)

The amendment permits legal sales of recreational marijuana which will be subject to sales tax. As a result of those sales and an accompanying increase in tourism, sales tax collections increase by at least $190 million per year once the legal retail market is fully operational. The estimated impacts increase the state’s overall budget by less than 0.1%. At a minimum, the required state regulatory structure will cost $1.5 million for startup and $9.1 million annually to operate; however, it is probable that this cost will be offset by fees. Local governments’ regulatory costs are unknown. The net impact of additional costs and savings associated with the criminal justice system cannot be determined. As a result of the identified impacts, the amendment has slightly positive effects on the economy. Florida’s GDP is higher each year by an average of $3.8 billion. This represents 0.32% of the annual total.