

**INITIATIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT
INDEPENDENT NONPARTISAN COMMISSION TO APPORTION LEGISLATIVE AND
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS WHICH REPLACES APPORTIONMENT BY
LEGISLATURE**

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT

Article III, Section 16 of the Florida Constitution currently provides for legislative redistricting of the state into legislative and congressional districts in the second year following each decennial census. The proposed amendment would replace this provision of the Florida Constitution and provide for redistricting by a fifteen-member Apportionment and Districting Commission, rather than the legislature. The Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority parties in each house, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall each appoint three persons to comprise the commission membership. The amendment disqualifies certain persons from membership and prohibits commission members from seeking office for four years following service on the commission. The commission would be required to redistrict the state each year following a decennial census.

Based on information provided through public workshops and collected through staff research, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference expects that the proposed amendment will result in state fiscal savings estimated to range from zero to \$6.7 million for each ten-year redistricting cycle. The costs of the commission and associated staff, data, technology, and legal expenses are estimated to be \$6.7 million to \$13.4 million, which probably will be offset by savings to the legislature of \$13.4 million (based on expenditures of the last two redistricting cycles). This estimate is based on the following:

- The Apportionment and Districting Commission will incur the following direct costs:
 - Administrative expenses related to staff, consultant fees, travel, public hearings, data preparation, equipment and software, and
 - Legal expenses related to the development of the plans and the defense thereof.
- The state will be required to pay attorney's fees for successful plaintiffs.
- No significant change is expected in the costs of the Attorney General, the Supreme Court, the Department of State, and the supervisors of elections because the amendment does not substantially alter their current responsibilities.
- Total commission costs will be no more than the average amount expended by the legislature over the last two cycles and no less than one-half of that amount.
- The average cost to the legislature of redistricting over the last two cycles has been \$13.4 million.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

As a result of the adoption of this amendment, the state fiscal savings are estimated to range from zero to \$6.7 million for each ten-year redistricting cycle. The costs of the commission and associated staff, data, technology, and legal expenses are estimated to be \$6.7 million to \$13.4 million, which probably will be offset by savings to the Legislature of \$13.4 million (based on expenditures of the last two redistricting cycles).