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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

H.B. 261
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 261's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Reported by House Civil Justice

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Brown

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Robert Meeker, Budget Analyst

Highlights

- Under the bill, approximately 900 cases will shift from the Middletown Municipal Court to the Butler County County Court annually, decreasing costs for Middletown and increasing them for Butler County. Fee revenue associated with the cases of about \$100,000 per year will also shift from Middletown to Butler County.

Detailed Analysis

Trenton removal from municipal court jurisdiction

The bill removes the municipal corporation of Trenton from the jurisdiction of the Middletown and Hamilton municipal courts, and by doing so places it under the jurisdiction of the Butler County County Court. Middletown Municipal Court anticipates a reduction of approximately 900 criminal and civil cases annually (a 5% decrease in overall caseload). This will result in a decrease in the court's adjudication costs for those cases. According to the court, it will also experience a reduction of about \$100,000 in revenues in the form of fees. Butler County County Court, in turn, will see a comparable increase in caseload and costs (a 3.3% increase in overall caseload) and a similar increase in resulting revenues.

It does not appear that the Hamilton Municipal Court exercises jurisdiction over civil or criminal matters originating in Trenton under current law, and its current operations will, therefore, be unaffected by the bill.

Franklin County domestic relations judgeship

The bill specifies that the domestic relations judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas to be elected in 2020 will take office on January 3, 2021, rather than January 2, 2021. This provision has no direct fiscal effect on the state or political subdivisions.

HB0261HR/zg

July 30, 2019