

Current law provides at KRS 67C.115 that the county attorney shall serve as legal counsel to the consolidated local government. **Section 3** of SB 222 HCS would amend that statute to allow the consolidated local government council to retain their own legal counsel for the purpose of advice and consultation if they choose to do so.

KRS 67C.131 currently allows each legislative council member one (1) full-time staff person. **Section 4** of the bill would amend that statute to provide that the two (2) largest political caucuses may hire staff persons to meet the staffing needs for that caucus.

Section 5 of the bill would amend KRS 67C.139 to establish guidelines for appointments to statutory agencies, boards, and commissions.

Section 6 of the bill would amend KRS 67C.143 to provide that, in addition to requiring a 2/3 majority vote to remove a mayor or legislative council member, removal of an appointee to a board or commission by the council would also require a 2/3 majority vote. The bill would prohibit a removed appointee from serving in that same capacity for five (5) years.

Section 7 would amend KRS 65.003 to authorize the legislative council of a consolidated local government to delegate its subpoena power to a person or group responsible for enforcement of a code of ethics.

Part III: Fiscal Explanation, Bill Provisions, and Estimated Cost

SB 222 HCS on Louisville/Jefferson Metro Government is indeterminable, but would likely be minimal to moderate.

Reducing the number of required meetings of the legislative council would represent a minimal cost savings to the consolidated local government.

The most direct impact of the bill would be an increase in expenses as a result of the additional staff SB 222 HCS would authorize, or require. The bill would require appointment of a Deputy Mayor. There is some indication that the mayor's chief of staff could serve as Deputy Mayor, though the bill would not require he or she do so. If that position did serve as Deputy Mayor then there would not be an additional cost for the Deputy Mayor's salary. The bill retains the provision allowing the legislative council's two (2) largest caucuses to hire additional full-time staff but eliminates any limit on how many additional staff may be hired.

Those provisions of the bill authorizing the council to hire their own legal counsel would also have a direct fiscal impact due to the potential for a substantial increase in the cost of contracted legal services paid by Louisville Metro.

The requirement that the council establish a Government Oversight and Audit Committee and extends the council's authority to investigate agencies, boards and commissions would require additional council and staff time, and resources.

Data Sources: Louisville Metro Revenue Commission staff; Louisville Metro Council; Louisville Metro Council staff; LRC staff

Preparer: Mary Stephens **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 3/13/17