

**INITIATIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT
IMPLEMENTATION OF APPORTIONMENT AND DISTRICTING COMMISSION 2007**

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT

Article III, Section 16 of the Florida Constitution currently provides for the legislature to redistrict the state into legislative and congressional districts in the second year following each decennial census. The proposed amendment would require that the Apportionment and Districting Commission redistrict the state in 2007 (if the electorate adopts the amendment establishing such commission), and compel that elections held in 2008 be held pursuant to the apportionment plan adopted by the commission.

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 one-time costs for the 2007 redistricting ranging from \$6.7 million to \$13.4 million for state government and \$6.5 million to \$7.5 million for local governments. 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.
- 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.
- Additional anticipated costs to state government include increased direct costs due to the commission's expedited work schedule. These costs include, but are not limited to, data preparation, the need for additional staff and consultants, and possible additional litigation due to the accelerated and compressed work schedule as well as the reliance on 2000 Bureau of Census data. The fiscal impact is indeterminate.
- The Department of State will experience increased workload during the 2008 election cycle as a result of the additional redistricting. The fiscal impact is indeterminate but expected to be minor.
- Supervisors of Elections have estimated their direct costs to be between \$6.5 million and \$7.5 million for implementing changes in voting districts. Printing and mailing costs related to the distribution of voter information/education are among those costs included in the fiscal impact.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

If the constitutional amendment creating the commission is adopted, the one-time costs for the 2007 redistricting that will result from adoption of this amendment are estimated to range from \$6.7 million to \$13.4 million for state government and \$6.5 million to \$7.5 million for local governments. These estimates include the state costs of the commission and associated staff, data, technology and legal expenses, and the local government costs to the supervisors of elections.