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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Cervantes ORIGINAL DATE 03/13/15
 LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Constitutional Revision Commission SB 672

ANALYST Sanogo

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
\$100.0		Nonrecurring	Legislative Council Cash Balance

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16	FY17		
\$100.0			Nonrecurring	Legislative Council

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
 Attorney General's Office (AGO)
 Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

SB 672 would create an independent commission to propose constitutional amendments to the Legislature. The bill creates a 17 member commission, with 15 voting members and two nonvoting members (the chief justice of the supreme court and the attorney general, or their designees). SB 672 contains an emergency clause and a delayed repeal date of April 1, 2016.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the Legislative Council cash balances. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of FY16 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Since constitutional amendments are introduced without difficulty each legislative session, the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) reports that it does not find a clear reason why a commission would be necessary. The agency also states that,

The legislation is unclear about where the new commission would reside. The new commission is described as "independent" which could involve the creation of a new SHARE [Statewide Human Resources, Accounting, REporting] business unit, or the new commission could be administratively attached to an existing SHARE business unit.

...Assistance from non-employee contractors may be required in order to complete the necessary tasks immediately as specified by the "emergency" language in the legislation. The bill does not provide any funding for resources required to complete the administrative tasks necessary to set up the new commission in SHARE.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

DFA estimates that the administrative tasks associated with setting up the new commission in SHARE would require a considerable amount of staff time from the agency's financial control division. This would reduce the financial control division's ability to process its normal workload and comply with the division's statutory responsibilities.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

Since the appropriation is from legislative cash balances, any unexpended balance remaining at the end of FY16 should revert back to Legislative cash balances.

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