

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 413

**PRINTER NO.** 432

**AMOUNT**

\$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

March 19, 2019

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Martin

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 413 is a Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution.

This bill would amend Article V §15(b) to remove the requirement that justices, judges and justices of the peace seeking retention be presented on a separate ballot.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Article XI (Amendments), § 1 requires that legislation proposing to amend the Constitution be passed by the General Assembly in two consecutive legislative sessions, be advertised in two newspapers in each county after each passage and thereafter be approved by the electorate.

The Department of State estimated the cost for each advertisement of a Constitutional amendment to be approximately \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000. Costs for advertising the amendment in two consecutive legislative session would amount to approximately \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000. This would be the first passage of this amendment.

If the constitution amendment is eventually approved by the electorate, counties may recognize some savings in the costs of printing ballots in years when justices, judges and justices of the peace are seeking retention.