

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE STATEWIDE CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE PETITION –
IDENTIFIER: C-03-2023

FINANCIAL IMPACT – YES

The Statewide Constitutional Initiative Petition – Identifier: C-03-2023 (Initiative) proposes to amend various sections of the *Nevada Constitution* to make the following changes to the process of apportioning members of the Nevada Legislature and Nevada’s representatives in the House of Representatives:

- 1) Article 4, Section 5 is amended to remove the duty of the Legislature to apportion members of the Senate and Assembly among the counties or legislative districts.
- 2) Article 4 is amended by adding new Sections 5A, 5B, and 5C, which provide for the creation of an independent redistricting commission within the legislative branch of state government.

The provisions of Section 5B, subsection 2 of the Initiative require the Commission to approve a redistricting plan no later than 180 days following the release of the decennial census by the U.S. Census Bureau.

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE INITIATIVE

Pursuant to Article 19, Section 4 of the *Nevada Constitution*, an initiative proposing to amend the *Nevada Constitution* must be approved by the voters at two successive general elections in order to become a part of the *Constitution*. If this Initiative is approved by voters at the November 2024 and November 2026 General Elections, the provisions of the Initiative would become effective on the fourth Tuesday of November 2026 (November 24, 2026), when the votes are canvassed by the Supreme Court pursuant to NRS 293.395.

If approved by the voters at the November 2024 and November 2026 General Elections, the provisions of the Initiative would require the creation of an independent redistricting commission to apportion Nevada’s representatives in the House of Representatives and the members of the Senate and the Assembly. Because the provisions would become effective following the November 2026 General Election, if approved by the voters, the members of the independent redistricting commission would need to be appointed by the Legislature in such a time frame that permits the commission to perform its duties following the next decennial census, which is anticipated to be conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2030, as required by Section 5B, subsection 2 of the Initiative.

The Fiscal Analysis Division has determined that the provisions contained within the Initiative creating the independent redistricting commission within the legislative branch will result in an increase of expenditures for the state government. However, the provisions of the Initiative do not specify the number of meetings that the commission may need to hold in order to conduct its business, nor does the Initiative specify the resources that may need to be made available to the commission in order to conduct the business specified therein. Because the Fiscal Analysis Division cannot predict what resources the Legislature may dedicate to the commission following the passage of the Initiative, the Fiscal Analysis Division cannot estimate the resultant impact from the passage of the Initiative with any reasonable degree of certainty.

Prepared by the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau – December 8, 2023