

**FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE INITIATIVE PROPOSING TO AMEND THE  
NEVADA CONSTITUTION RELATING TO SANCTUARY CITIES**

**FINANCIAL IMPACT – CANNOT BE DETERMINED**

**OVERVIEW**

The initiative petition filed on June 14, 2018, relating to sanctuary cities (Initiative) proposes to amend Article 15 of the *Nevada Constitution* by adding a new section that would prohibit the Legislature, a board of county commissioners, or the governing body of a city from enacting laws or otherwise adopting, enforcing, or endorsing a policy that would prohibit, limit, or discourage cooperation with the enforcement of the immigration laws of the United States.

**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 2018 and November 2020 General Elections, the provisions of the Initiative would become effective on the fourth Thursday of November 2020 (November 26, 2020), when the votes are canvassed by the Supreme Court pursuant to NRS 293.395.

Based on information received by the Fiscal Analysis Division from jurisdictions that may be potentially affected by the Initiative, no government entities in the state of Nevada have enacted a law or ordinance, or otherwise formally adopted, enforced, or endorsed a policy, that would prohibit, limit, or discourage cooperation with the enforcement of federal immigration laws. Thus, the enactment of the Initiative would have no effect upon state or local government based on this present status.

However, the Fiscal Analysis Division cannot predict whether the Legislature, a county, or city would adopt a law or policy before November 2020 that would prohibit, limit, or discourage cooperation with the enforcement of federal immigration laws, or the costs that may be incurred by a state or local government as a result of changes in policy by those entities, were the Initiative to be passed after the entity changed its policy.

Thus, while the Fiscal Analysis Division does not currently anticipate a financial impact to state or local government as a result of passage of the Initiative, the actual financial impact to state or local government cannot be determined with any reasonable degree of certainty.

Prepared by the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau – July 9, 2018

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