SB262

3191VVZ-1

By Senator Jones (Constitutional Amendment)

RFD: Local Legislation

First Read: 02-Apr-24

SYNOPSIS:

This bill would propose an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, relating to Etowah County, to authorize the Legislature to fix and regulate court costs by general or local law; and to ratify all previously collected court costs.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To propose an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, relating to Etowah County, to amend Section 28-2.00, Constitution of Alabama of 2022; to authorize the Legislature to fix and regulate court costs by general or local law; and to ratify all previously collected court costs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, is proposed:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Section 28-2.00 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

"Section 28-2.00

(a) The ~~legislature~~ Legislature, by general or local

law, may ~~by general or local law provide that a trial tax or charge on litigation of not more than ... dollars (...) shall be taxed as costs in any case, action, or proceeding hereafter filed in the circuit court of~~ fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Etowah ~~county, whether at law or in equity, and that a like tax or charge of not more than ... dollars (...) shall be taxed as cost in any case hereafter filed in the Etowah county court, the proceeds of such tax or charge shall be used for establishing, equipping, maintaining and operating the public law library in Etowah county established pursuant to Act No. 191, H. 596, which became effective August 1, 1955 (Acts of Alabama 1955, page 485), including the payment of the salaries of the personnel needed to operate such library~~County and provide for their distribution.

(b) All court costs and charges collected in Etowah County prior to the ratification of this amendment are hereby ratified, validated, and confirmed."

Upon ratification of this constitutional amendment, the Code Commissioner shall number and place this amendment as appropriate in the constitution omitting this instructional paragraph and may make the following nonsubstantive revisions: change capitalization, hierarchy, spelling, and punctuation for purposes of style and uniformity; correct manifest grammatical, clerical, and typographical errors; revise internal or external citations and cross-references; and translate effective dates.

END PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Section 2. An election upon the proposed amendment shall be held in accordance with Sections 284, 284.01, and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, and the election laws of this state. The appropriate election official shall assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional amendment on the election ballot and shall set forth the following description of the substance or subject matter of the proposed constitutional amendment:

"Relating to Etowah County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to authorize the Legislature to fix and regulate court costs by general or local law; and to ratify all previously collected court costs.

Proposed by Act ____."

This description shall be followed by the following language:

"Yes( ) No( )."

Section 3. The proposed amendment shall become valid as part of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, when approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon.