

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2808-02
Bill No.: HB 1620
Subject: Counties; Domestic Relations; Family Law
Type: Original
Date: March 16, 2004

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Local Government	(Unknown)	(Unknown)	(Unknown)

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator (CTS)** assume the proposal would increase the surcharges on civil actions and fees on marriage licenses to provide funding for certain homeless shelters. Based on FY 03 data, the \$1.00 increase on civil cases would generate approximately \$83,320 in any given year.

Officials from the **City of St. Louis Recorder's Office** assume they would incur costs to have the computer changes made to collect, distribute, and report on the money collections. They did not provide an estimate of the costs.

Officials from the **Greene County Recorder of Deeds Office** state they issued 2,038 marriage licenses and paid \$20,380 to the Domestic Violence Fund. The increased marriage license fee would cost persons obtaining a marriage license \$2,038 more per year.

Officials from the **Boone County Treasurer's Office** assume the proposal would create a new fund for county treasurers. There would be administrative costs associated with this bill due to the calculation of funds from two different offices and the tracking of two funds. They estimate the increase in costs to a county treasurer would be \$2,000 per year.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Oversight assumes the increased fees on marriage licenses would generate increased revenues of an unknown amount. Oversight also assumes counties could experience increased administrative costs due to the implementation of the proposed legislation. Oversight assumes this increase in administrative costs to be unknown.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2005 (10 Mo.)	FY 2006	FY 2007
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2005 (10 Mo.)	FY 2006	FY 2007
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POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

Revenues – Counties

Increased surcharges and fees*	\$69,433 to Unknown	\$83,320 to Unknown	\$83,320 to Unknown
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Costs – Counties

Distributions to shelters for victims of domestic violence*	(\$69,433 to Unknown)	(\$83,320 to Unknown)	(\$83,320 to Unknown)
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Costs – Recorders of Deeds

Administration costs	<u>(Unknown)</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>
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**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON
 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS**

<u>(Unknown)</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>
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* Increased revenues would be offset by increased distributions to shelters for victims of domestic violence.

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.


DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation would increase the fee for marriage licenses from \$5 to \$6 and the filing surcharge for civil actions from \$2 to \$3. The additional \$1 fee on marriage licenses and \$1 surcharge for filing civil actions would be deposited into a special fund for the purpose of providing financial assistance to shelters for the homeless in which at least 20% of those receiving services are women and children who are victims of domestic violence.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of State Courts Administrator
City of St. Louis Recorder's Office
Greene County Recorder of Deeds
Boone County Treasurer



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
March 16, 2004