

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1312-01
Bill No.: HB 582
Subject: Courts; Liability
Type: Original
Date: February 28, 2005

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
General Revenue	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
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 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator** assume the proposal would increase the dollar limit in small claims cases from \$3,000 to \$5,000. This may shift some cases to small claims court from the associate circuit court. Filing and other fees are lower in small claims court, so there may be some loss of revenues. CTS has no way of estimating what those amounts might be. Because small claims cases can be filed pro se, they require more clerk time to assist those filing. There may also be an increase in the number of trials de novo filed. In sum, there may be increased costs to the judiciary, but CTS anticipates the cost would be under \$100,000.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
<u>Costs – Office of State Courts</u>			
Administrator			
Increased cases	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

DESCRIPTION

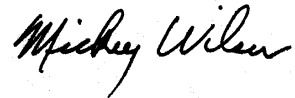
The proposed legislation would increase the amount in controversy from under \$3,000 to under \$5,000 in cases that small claims courts have jurisdiction.

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

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of State Courts Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mickey Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
February 28, 2005