

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0700-01  
Bill No.: HB 303  
Subject: Counties; Mortgages and Deeds; Courts; Crimes and Punishment  
Type: Original  
Date: February 15, 2017

---

Bill Summary: This proposal establishes the offense of filing false documents.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
General Revenue	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(Less than \$100,000)</b>	<b>(Less than \$100,000)</b>	<b>(Less than \$100,000)</b>

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### **ASSUMPTION**

Officials at the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** assume this proposal removes a Class E felony for filing false documents in RSMo 400.9-501 and replaces it with a Class D/Class C felony in the newly created RSMo 570.095.

The language in the newly created section is more specific than that in the current statute, and allows for a Class D felony for first time offenders, with an enhancement to class C for repeat offenders or offenses against certain government officials, police, fire fighters, etc. While this change makes the legislation more clear, it does not appear that any new actions would be considered a crime under these changes.

The current legislation found in RSMo 400.9-501 was modified in 2014 to introduce the criminal penalty. No charge code was ever created for this statute, and the legislation is still quite new, meaning that good data for the current impact is unknown. Thus, this will be treated as a new offense; further, as this offense is expected to be quite rare, only the D felony version will be considered. The standard response for a new non-violent D felony is found below. Under this situation, 3 individuals will be sentenced to prison and 5 to probation in each fiscal year. For incarcerated individuals, the average sentence is 4.8 years, with a total of 2.9 years in prison and 1.9 years on parole; the probationers serve a 3.0 year term.

If this impact statement has changed from statements submitted in previous years, it is because the department's Budget and Research Section reviewed the way responses had been submitted and has developed a more precise way to calculate the impact. In previous year's responses, the full impact of recidivism for parole releases was not adequately calculated. Now we have been able to quantify the fact that some parolees are returned to prison after release and that has been added into the calculation of the impact. The total number of offenders has not changed but there is an assumption that they will spend more time back in prison rather than being on community supervision, which will increase the amount of the impacts.

The FY 2016 average cost of supervision is \$6.12 per offender per day or an annual cost of \$2,234 per offender. The DOC cost of incarceration is \$16.67 per day or an annual cost of \$6,085 per offender.

The DOC would assume this legislation will result in long term costs as indicated in the chart below.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

	# to Prison	Cost per year	Total Cost Prison	# to Probation & Parole	Cost per year	Total Cost P&P	Grand Total P&P
Year 1	3	(\$6,085)	(\$18,255)	5	(\$2,234)	(\$11,170)	(\$24,521)
Year 2*	6	(\$6,085)	(\$36,510)	10	(\$2,234)	(\$22,340)	(\$60,027)
Year 3*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	15.3	(\$2,234)	(\$34,180)	(\$90,639)
Year 4*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	18.3	(\$2,234)	(\$40,882)	(\$99,564)
Year 5*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	20.7	(\$2,234)	(\$46,244)	(\$107,359)
Year 6*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	20.7	(\$2,234)	(\$46,244)	(\$109,506)
Year 7*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	20.7	(\$2,234)	(\$46,244)	(\$111,697)
Year 8*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	20.7	(\$2,234)	(\$46,244)	(\$113,930)
Year 9*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	20.7	(\$2,234)	(\$46,244)	(\$116,209)
Year 10*	8.7	(\$6,085)	(\$52,940)	20.7	(\$2,234)	(\$46,244)	(\$118,533)

\* Includes 2% inflation

**Oversight** assumes that the DOC will incur some costs related to this proposal; therefore, Oversight will reflect a cost of "Less than \$100,000" in FY 2018, 2019 and 2020. Oversight notes that costs could exceed \$100,000 in year five, or FY 2022.

Officials from the **Attorney General's Office** assume that any potential costs arising from this proposal can be absorbed with existing resources.

For the purpose of this proposed legislation, officials at the **Office of State Public Defender (SPD)** cannot assume that existing staff will provide competent, effective representation for any new cases arising where indigent persons are charged with the proposed new crime of intentionally filing a fraudulent financing statement or any financing statement with the Secretary of State with the intent to harass or defraud any other person. This offense would be a new Class D Felony, unless the offense meets other circumstances, then it becomes a Class C Felony.

While the number of new cases (or cases with increased penalties) may be too few or uncertain to request additional funding for this specific bill, the SPD will continue to request sufficient appropriations to provide effective representation in all cases where the right to counsel attaches.

**Oversight** assumes the State Public Defender's Office can absorb the additional caseload that may result from this proposal.

Officials at **St. Charles County** assume there will be a minimal fiscal impact for maintaining a spreadsheet of suspect documents and emailing them to law enforcement.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State, Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, Department of Public Safety - Missouri Highway Patrol, Office of the State Courts Administrator, Office of Prosecution Services, Boone County Sheriff's Department and Cole County Sheriff** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2018 (10 Mo.)	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<u>Cost</u> - DOC - incarceration and/or supervision of offenders	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u> )	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u> )	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u> )
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b>(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)</b>	<b>(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)</b>	<b>(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)</b>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2018 (10 Mo.)	FY 2019	FY 2020
	<u><b>\$0</b></u>	<u><b>\$0</b></u>	<u><b>\$0</b></u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill creates the offense of filing a false document, which is committed if a person files, causes to be filed, or attempts to file, creates, uses as genuine, transfers or has transferred, presents, or prepares with knowledge or belief that it will be filed, presented, or transferred to the Secretary of State or his or her designee, any county recorder of deeds or his or her designee, any municipal, county, district, or state government entity or office, or any credit bureau or financial institution specified documents. For the first offense, filing a false document is a class D felony. Filing false documents is a class C felony in certain specified instances. Any person who is found guilty of committing such offense will be ordered to make full restitution to any person or entity that has sustained any actual losses as a result of the commission of such offense.

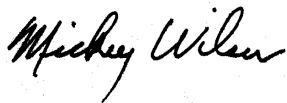
FISCAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The bill specifies that a system must be created, by January 1, 2018, in which suspicious filings are logged, and outlines the process for petitioning the court when a person has probable cause to believe a filing is fraudulent.

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

Department of Corrections  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Office of Prosecution Services  
Office of the State Public Defender  
Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration  
Department of Public Safety - Missouri Highway Patrol  
Attorney General's Office  
Cole County Sheriff  
Boon County Sheriff's Department  
St. Charles County



Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
February 15, 2017

Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
February 15, 2017