

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 5610-04  
Bill No.: SCS for HCS for HB 2079  
Subject: County Government; Department of Health and Senior Services; Medical Procedures and Personnel; Professional Registration and Licensing  
Type: Original  
Date: May 1, 2018

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to coroners.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
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>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
Missouri Coroners' Training Fund	Greater than \$16,583	Greater than \$19,900	Greater than \$19,900
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds</b>	<b>Greater than \$16,583</b>	<b>Greater than \$19,900</b>	<b>Greater than \$19,900</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 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<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 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<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 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### **ASSUMPTION**

Officials at the **Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)** assume the following:

#### **Section 58.208-Division of Community and Public Health**

The Bureau of Vital Records (BVR) issues on average 19,900 death certificates each year. Per 193.265, RSMo, the BVR already collects a thirteen dollar fee for each initial copy and a ten dollar fee for each additional death certificate ordered at the same time. The fees are divided and deposited into four different funds as directed in legislation. The proposed legislation requires the collection of an additional one dollar fee for each death certificate issued to be deposited into an additional fund, the Missouri State Coroners' Training Fund.

Collecting the additional dollar at time of issuance and performing accounting procedures to report and submit the fees daily to DHSS Fee Receipts Office would be absorbed within current operations. However, in order to have the additional dollar deposited to the credit of this new fund, an ITSD system change would need to occur. The estimated cost will be a one-time expense incurred in FY 2019. DHSS estimates 116.64 hours at \$75 per hour for a cost of \$8,748 in FY 19.

**Oversight** inquired the DHSS regarding this proposal. In the 01 version of the bill, section 58.208 used the word “certified” which would require DHSS to certify every death certificate for every death. This is not within normal procedures of DHSS. In this current version of the bill, section 58.208 uses the word “issued” which is within the normal procedures of DHSS. Issued death certificates are not done on every death and county health departments also do death certificates. The number of death certificates provided by DHSS is what is done by DHSS and not by the counties. The extra \$1 fee for the training fund would also come from the counties when they issue a death certificate. Oversight is unclear on the number of death certificates that were issued by counties at this time and will reflect an amount greater than DHSS’s death certificate number going into the MO Coroners’ Training Fund.

Officials at the **Department of Revenue (DOR)** assume the Missouri State Coroner's Training Fund could potentially increase by an estimated \$17,000 to \$57,000 each fiscal year.

The DHSS has provided the DOR with the number of death certificates issued. DHSS stated that, in FY17, there were approximately 17,422 death certificates issued. Subsequently, \$17,422 would be deposited into the Missouri State Coroner's Training Fund if this proposed legislation is passed.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Secondly, the DOR has estimated, based on data found on the DHSS website, that there is, on average, 57,000 deaths per year in Missouri. Therefore, it creates the possibility that a death certificate be issued for all 57,000 individuals who have passed away. Subsequently, if this were the case, \$57,000 would be deposited into the Missouri State Coroner's Training Fund.

**Oversight** went to DHSS's website to obtain the data for those years. They are as follows:

2016 - 59,824  
2015 - 59,810  
2014 - 58,141  
2013 - 57,256

Officials at the **Department of Public Safety (DPS)** assume 1-2 Program Specialists will be needed to set up this program. After that, it may just be yearly meetings/handling, which could lower our costs. A further detailed breakout of the cost will be provided later by the Department, but the (2) Program Specialists, plus set-up costs for each employee should be around \$120,000.00 in total.

**Oversight** assumes DPS could implement the administrative duties to the new Coroner Standards and Training Commission for under \$100,000 in expense.

Officials at the **Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration** and the **Office of the State Treasurer** each assume no fiscal impact to their respective agencies from this proposal.

In response to a previous version, officials at **St. Louis County** and **Boone County** each assumed no fiscal impact to their respective entities from this proposal.

This proposal could increase Total State Revenues.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<u>Costs</u> - DHSS - modifications done by ITSD to existing mainframe programs to accommodate additional \$1 fee	(\$8,748)	\$0	\$0
<u>Costs</u> - DPS - Staff costs to establish/maintain Coroners Standard & Training Commission	(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>

**MISSOURI CORONERS' TRAINING FUND**

<u>Revenue</u> - DHSS - collection of \$1 fee on death certificates	Greater than <u>\$16,583</u>	Greater than <u>\$19,900</u>	Greater than <u>\$19,900</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE MISSOURI CORONERS' TRAINING FUND</b>	<b>Greater than <u>\$16,583</u></b>	<b>Greater than <u>\$19,900</u></b>	<b>Greater than <u>\$19,900</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
	<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.

### FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes the Coroner Standards and Training Commission within the Department of Public Safety which shall establish training standards relating to the operation, responsibilities and technical skills of the office of County Coroner. The bill sets forth the membership of the Commission.

This bill establishes the "Missouri State Coroners' Training Fund" and creates a \$1 fee for all death certificates issued in the state, which will be deposited into the fund. It also specifies that any amount of money in the fund over \$500,000 shall revert to the credit of the general revenue fund.

The bill specifies that, if a coroner is not current on his or her training, the Department of Health and Senior Services can prohibit that coroner from signing any death certificates.

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 Health and Senior Services  
Department of Revenue  
Department of Public Safety  
Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration  
Office of the State Treasurer  
St. Louis County  
Boone County

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