

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 3573-01
Bill No.: HB 1554
Subject: Courts; Judges; Civil Procedure; Saint Louis City; Libraries and Archives
Type: Original
Date: January 21, 2020

Bill Summary: This proposal allows the circuit court in St. Louis City to collect a fee not to exceed twenty dollars, rather than fifteen, to go toward the law library.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

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

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Local Government	\$0 to \$144,163	\$0 to \$172,995	\$0 to \$172,995

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

\$488,426 - Fee collection for law library in St. Louis City

Officials at the **Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA)** assume the proposed legislation allows the circuit court in St. Louis City to collect a fee not to exceed twenty dollars, rather than fifteen, to go toward the law library. During the past five years there was an average of 7,585 circuit civil case filings, 7,346 domestic relations civil case filings and 18,314 associate civil and small claims civil case filings, for a total of 33,245. Based upon the increase in the collection fee not to exceed \$20, rather than \$15, to go toward the library, OSCA estimates the increase to be \$0 to \$166,225 ($\$5 * 33,245$).

Oversight notes OSCA's numbers above are for FY12 thru FY16 according to the Missouri Judicial Report Supplement. Using the same information in the supplement, Oversight gathered information for the past seven years (FY12 thru FY18) and the average was as follows:

Circuit Civil	9,460
Domestic Relations	7,265
Associate Civil and Small Claims	<u>17,874</u>
Civil Circuit Total	34,599

Oversight estimates the increase to be \$0 to \$172,995 ($\$5 * 34,599$).

Officials at the **City of St. Louis** state that according to the Law Librarian, some additional programming, database enhancements, increase in print volumes, and potential benefits to pro se litigants may be gained with additional fees but those are undefined at this time. The Law Library is its own entity separate from the Court. The Court is not in a position to quantify those costs as they pertain to the Circuit's operations.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2021 (10 Mo.)	FY 2022	FY 2023
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government

FY 2021
(10 Mo.)

FY 2022

FY 2023

**ST. LOUIS CITY CIRCUIT COURT
FUNDS**

Revenue - on filing fees to go towards
law library (\$488,426)

\$0 to \$144,163

\$0 to \$172,995

\$0 to \$172,995

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON ST.
LOUIS CITY CIRCUIT COURT
FUNDS**

\$0 to \$144,163

\$0 to \$172,995

\$0 to \$172,995

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Currently, the circuit court in any circuit may collect a fee in civil cases not to exceed \$15, and that fee shall go toward maintenance and upkeep of the law library in the designated county. Jackson County and any circuit that reimburses the state for salaries of family court commissioners are allowed to charge a fee not to exceed \$20. The bill adds the circuit court in the city of St. Louis to the circuits that may charge a fee not to exceed \$20.

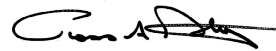
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the State Courts Administrator
City of St. Louis



Julie Morff
Director
January 21, 2020



Ross Strobe
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January 21, 2020