

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4008-01
Bill No.: HB 1727
Subject: Children and Minors; Boats and Watercraft
Type: Original
Date: January 15, 2020

Bill Summary: This proposal expands the requirement for children to wear personal flotation devices.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
General Revenue	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Various State Funds	Less than \$100,000	Less than \$100,000	Less than \$100,000
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	Less than \$100,000	Less than \$100,000	Less than \$100,000

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 7 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	Less than \$100,000	Less than \$100,000	Less than \$100,000

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§306.220 - Personal flotation devices for children

For the purpose of this proposed legislation, officials from the **Office of State Public Defender (SPD)** state they cannot assume that existing staff will provide effective representation for any new cases arising where indigent persons are charged with the expanded crimes of failure to cause a child under 12 to wear a personal flotation device, a class C misdemeanor. The Missouri State Public Defender System is currently providing legal representation in caseloads in excess of recognized standards.

In FY 2019, SPD's Trial Division did not open any cases under charge code 306.220.

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 notes over the last three fiscal years, the SPD has lapsed a total of \$153 of General Revenue appropriations (\$2 out of \$28.0 million in FY 2017; \$150 out of \$42.5 million in FY 2018; and \$1 out of \$46.0 million in FY 2019). Therefore, Oversight assumes the SPD is at maximum capacity, and the increase in workload resulting from this bill cannot be absorbed with SPD's current resources.

Adding one additional Assistant Public Defender 1 (APD) with a starting salary of \$47,000, will cost approximately \$74,500 per year in personal service and fringe benefit costs. One additional APD II (\$52,000 per year; eligible for consideration after 1 year of successful performance at APD I) will cost the state approximately \$81,000 per year in personal service and fringe benefit costs. When expense and equipment costs such as travel, training, furniture, equipment and supplies are included, Oversight assumes the cost for a new APD could approach \$100,000 per year.

Oversight assumes the SPD cannot absorb the additional caseload that may result from this proposal within their existing resources and, therefore, will reflect a potential additional cost of (Less than \$100,000) per year to the General Revenue Fund.

Officials from the **Missouri Office of Prosecution Services (MOPS)** assume the proposal will have no measurable fiscal impact on MOPS.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Oversight notes the **Department of Public Safety - Missouri State Highway Patrol** and **Office of State Courts Administrator** have each stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

Oversight contacted the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MHP) and Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA) to determine the number of tickets issued in the last two years and fines and costs for violations. The MHP states 52 tickets and 46 warnings were issued in 2018, and 28 tickets and 34 warnings were issued in 2019 under charge code 306.220. OSCA indicates the fine for this violation is \$20.50; additional individual county fees range from \$2 to \$24 and/or additional court costs of \$44.50. OSCA states the fine revenue for the ticket goes to local school funds and courts costs go to various state and local funds. Oversight assumes the amount of fine revenue received by schools will increase because the age which children required to wear a personal flotation devices increases from age 7 to 12. However, it is hard to estimate the impact based on the existing age limit. Therefore, the impact to local governments will be presented as less than \$100,000.

Listed below are examples of some of the state and local funds to which court costs are distributed:

Fee/Fund Name	Fee Amount
Basic Civil Legal Services Fund	\$8.00
Clerk Fee	\$15.00 (\$12 State/\$3 County)
County Fee	\$25.00
State Court Automation Fund	\$7.00
Crime Victims' Compensation Fund	\$7.50
DNA Profiling Analysis Fund	\$15.00
Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Fund	\$1.00
Sheriff's Retirement Fund	\$3.00
Motorcycle Safety Trust Fund	\$1.00
Brain Injury Fund	\$2.00

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Fee/Fund Name (continued)	Fee Amount
Independent Living Center Fund	\$1.00
Sheriff's Fee	\$10.00 (County)
Prosecuting Attorney and Circuit Attorney Training Fund	\$4.00
Prosecuting Attorney Training Fund	\$1.00 (\$0.50 State/\$0.50 County)
Spinal Cord Injury Fund	\$2.00

The following link provides information on life jacket requirements in all 50 states:
<https://www.lifejacketadvisor.com/child-life-jacket-requirements-state-laws/>. Of the eight states that border Missouri, seven states require children 12 and younger and one state requires children 11 and younger, to wear an approved life jacket while onboard or being towed behind a vessel.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other counties were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2021 (10 Mo.)	FY 2022	FY 2023
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GENERAL REVENUE FUND

Costs - SPD (§306.220) Additional costs of defending clients from the expanded crime of failure to cause a child under 12 to wear a personal flotation device

<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>
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**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE
GENERAL REVENUE FUND**

<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>
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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2021 (10 Mo.)	FY 2022	FY 2023
VARIOUS STATE FUNDS			
<u>Revenue</u> - (\$306.220) Court fees to various state funds	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON VARIOUS STATE FUNDS	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>
 <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	 FY 2021 (10 Mo.)	 FY 2022	 FY 2023
LOCAL GOVERNMENT			
<u>Revenue</u> - Court fees to various political subdivisions	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>
<u>Revenue</u> - Schools (\$306.220) Fine revenue and court costs to schools	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>	<u>Less than</u> <u>\$100,000</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Currently, children under the age of seven years old are required to wear a personal flotation device when on board any watercraft on the waters of Missouri. This act names the provision "Hannah's Law" and raises the age until which a child is required to wear a personal flotation device to twelve. This act also requires a child who is wading or swimming in navigable public waters more than three feet in depth to wear a personal flotation device. This act exempts children from the personal flotation device requirement if supervised by a lifeguard. (§306.220)

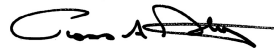
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Public Safety -
Missouri State Highway Patrol
Missouri Office of Prosecution Services
Office of State Courts Administrator
State Public Defender's Office
St. Francois County
St. Louis County



Julie Morff
Director
January 15, 2020



Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
January 15, 2020