

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4186S.07F
 Bill No.: SS for SCS for HCS for HB 1840
 Subject: Autism; Children and Minors; Disabilities; Emergencies; Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; Lotteries; Mental Health; Motor Vehicles; Department of Public Safety; Department of Revenue; Department of Transportation
 Type: Original
 Date: May 12, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to communication involving persons with disabilities.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	(\$225,000 to Could exceed \$617,705)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$392,704)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$395,871)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$225,000 to Could exceed \$617,705)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$392,704)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$395,871)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Communication Access Service Fund*	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Distributions and transfers net to zero.

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Communication Access Services Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Oversight was unable to receive some of the agency responses in a timely manner due to the short fiscal note request time. Oversight has presented this fiscal note on the best current information that we have or on prior year information regarding a similar bill. Upon the receipt of agency responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note.

§161.412 – Grants for Deaf-Blind Individuals and Families

In response to similar legislation, HB 2408 (2026), officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** assumed no measurable impact to DESE. The total amount of grants will be dependent upon appropriations.

Oversight assumes this proposal removes the \$300,000 cap on the total amount of grants.

Oversight notes program expenditure history has approached the \$300,000 cap. Oversight notes, based on information found in DESE's FY 2027 Program book, the projected expenditure for FY 2026 will reach the cap. Therefore, Oversight assumes if the proposal removes the cap, more money could be requested through the appropriation process. However, it is unknown how much the increase would amount to. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a \$0 (no additional increase) or unknown cost to General Revenue. Based on expenditure history, Oversight does not anticipate the allowed increase in grants to exceed the \$250,000 threshold but notes the grants are subject to appropriation.

Oversight has provided the program expenditure history as noted in the DESE FY 2027 Program Book.

Year	Appropriation	Program Expenditure
2023	\$300,000	(\$284,401)
2024	\$300,000	(\$284,392)
2025	\$300,000	(\$232,689)
2026 (Projected)	\$300,000	(\$300,000)

In response to similar legislation, HB 2408 (2026), officials from the **Department of Mental Health** and **Department of Social Services** each assumed the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

In response to similar legislation, HB 1308 (2025), officials from **East Buchanan Co. C-1 School District** assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

Oversight notes that the above-mentioned agencies have stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their organization. Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact on the fiscal note.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other school districts were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

§209.247 – Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Statewide Registry

In response to similar legislation, SB 1637 (2026), officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assumed §209.247 calls for the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to develop and maintain a statewide registry of communication access service providers, provide information regarding available resources to assist with costs and support to communication access service providers, hire a program manager to fulfill the requirements of this legislation, and subject to appropriation, administer scholarships for professional development and administer finance requests for communication access services between individuals who are deaf, blind, or hard of hearing. DESE assumes the requirements of this legislation will require a program manager FTE position with an annual salary of \$100,901 and an ongoing cost of \$13,339 and onetime cost of \$5,082 for expenses and equipment.

In addition to this FTE, DESE assumes it will cost between \$208,000 - \$400,000 to administer the program called for in this legislation. This estimate is based on programs in other states ranging from \$200,000-\$700,000. The Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing identified four major regions in Missouri that would participate in the services listed: Kansas City, St. Louis, Columbia, and Springfield. In each region there are currently one 1–2-hour appointments per day that cost approximately \$200 to cover or \$800 to cover all four appointments. Thus, DESE estimates the cost of the administration of services by multiplying \$800 * 261 business days equaling \$208,000. However, DESE also recognizes that with more access the number of appointments could increase thus reflecting the range in costs.

Lastly, the Commission believes the scholarships called for in this legislation would cost \$10,000 based on current scholarships to attend specialized programming and training opportunities ranging from \$50-\$2,000, depending on the training, with most opportunities being around \$500. Thus, \$10,000 could cover the costs of 50 recipients for professional development in the field of communication services.

Upon further inquiry, DESE noted the appointments would fulfil all the requirements of the proposal. Also, MCDHH noted that they have several existing programs already in the commission that do aspects of the requirements in the legislation which will make administering

the new services easier and less costly. Therefore, Oversight will reflect cost as estimated by DESE for their organization.

Oversight notes this proposal creates the Communication Access Services Fund, which is responsible for upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used by the commission for the salary of the program manager, distribution of financial assistance for communication access services, and distribution of scholarships under this section. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a cost as estimated by DESE for their organization transferring out to the Communication access fund and the cost transferring out of the fund to fulfil the requirements of the proposal. Oversight notes this proposal is subject to appropriation.

Oversight notes the Communication Access Services Fund can receive gifts, donations, grants, and bequests. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero to unknown income for the fund.

In response to similar legislation, SB 1637 (2026), officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Social Services, Office of the State Treasurer, Missouri House of Representatives, and Missouri Senate** each assumed the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other school districts were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

§301.287 – Persons with Impaired or Limited Ability to Communicate with Law Enforcement (Mason’s Law)

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Department of Revenue (DOR)** assumed the following regarding this proposal:

Administrative Impact

To implement the proposed language the department will be required to:

- Design a new form
- Update the department’s website
- Create correspondence letters
- Create procedures
- Train department staff

Because of the limited timeframe between the proposed language's effective date and the anticipated integration of motor vehicle processes into the FUSION system, implementation of this bill will coincide with the launch of the modernized system.

FY 2027 – Motor Vehicle Bureau

Associate Research/Data Analyst 150 hrs. @ \$31.16/hr. =\$4,674

Research/Data Analyst 50 hrs. @ \$37.14/hr. =\$1,857

Administrative Manager 40 hrs. @ \$51.40/hr. =\$2,056

FY 2027 – Strategy & Communications Office

Associate Research/Data Analyst 40 hrs. @ \$31.16/hr. =\$1,246

Research/Data Analyst 50 hrs. @ \$37.14/hr. =\$1,857

Total = \$11,690

Oversight assumes DOR will use existing staff and will not hire additional FTE to conduct these activities; therefore, Oversight will not reflect the administrative costs DOR has indicated on the fiscal note.

FUSION Impact

DOR notes: 500 hours of Development + 500 hours of Testing @ \$225/hr. = **\$225,000**

Development includes:

- Integrate disability status into existing vehicle registration transactions (new registration, renewal, registration correction)
- New standalone transaction to allow adding/modifying/renewing the disability status
- eService request to add/update/remove/renew
- Define system rules for reapplication letter
- Updates to MULES interface

The fiscal impact estimated above is based on changes in the current Department's Motor Vehicle system environment. The implementation of this legislation will be coordinated with the integration of the Department's Motor Vehicle and Driver Licensing software system approved and passed by the General Assembly in 2020 (Senate Bill 176). To avoid duplicative technology development and associated costs to the state, it is recommended a delayed effective date be added to this bill to correlate with the installation of the new system.

Oversight does not have information to the contrary and therefore, Oversight will reflect the FUSION estimate as provided by DOR.

§650.535 – Purple Alert System (RJ’s Law)

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Department of Public Safety – Director’s Office (DPS-DO)** assumed this proposal creates the Purple Alert system within DPS.

Before July 1, 2027, DPS will coordinate with MSHP, MoDOT, DHSS, state lottery and local law enforcement to:

- Develop training program
- Implement Alert system
- Establish policies and procedures
- Promulgate rules for the section

DPS-DO assumes they will require one (1) Benefit Program Specialist (\$53,315 annually) and software costs of \$500,000 in FY 2027 in addition to \$250,000 per year thereafter for software maintenance.

Oversight assumes local law enforcement agencies would opt to participate in this new alert system and the DPS-DO could assign the Purple Alert system to the Missouri Highway Patrol (MHP). The way other alert systems work is the person reporting the endangered person goes to their local law enforcement agency. If the criteria the reporting person gives law enforcement meets the criteria for an alert to be issued, the law enforcement agency contacts the MHP and MHP “pushes” out the alert. The MHP notes they already have the infrastructure in place to support another alert system. Therefore, for fiscal note purposes, Oversight assumes the DPS-DO does not need additional FTE to implement the provisions of this proposal.

Responses Regarding §§301.287 & 650.535 as a Whole

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Safety-Missouri Highway Patrol, Department of Social Services, Missouri Department of Transportation, Missouri Lottery Commission, Phelps County Sheriff, Kansas City Police Department, and St. Louis County Police Department** each assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Branson Police Department** assumed the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other local law enforcement agencies were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not.

Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

Rule Promulgation

In response to similar legislation, SB 1637 (2026), officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assumed this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

In response to similar legislation, SB 1637 (2026), officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** noted many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost – (\$161.412) Removal of the cap on grant appropriation p.3</u>	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)
<u>Cost – DOR (\$301.287) FUSION p.6</u>	(\$225,000)	\$0	\$0
<u>Transfer Out – DESE (\$209.247) Communication Access Fund p.4-5</u>	\$0 or (Could exceed \$366,080)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$392,704)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$395,871)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	(\$225,000 to Could exceed \$617,705)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$392,704)	\$0 or (Could exceed \$395,871)

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
COMMUNICATION ACCESS SERVICES FUND			
<u>Transfer In</u> - (§209.247) Appropriation from General Revenue p.4-5	\$0 or Could exceed \$366,080	\$0 or Could exceed \$392,704	\$0 or Could exceed \$395,871
<u>Revenue</u> - (§209.247) Gifts, bequests or donations p.4-5	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown
<u>Cost – DESE</u> (§209.247) p.4-5	\$0 or	\$0 or	\$0 or
Personal Service	(\$84,084)	(\$102,919)	(\$104,977)
Fringe Benefits	(\$47,432)	(\$57,730)	(\$58,558)
Expense & Equipment	(\$16,564)	(\$14,055)	(\$14,336)
<u>Total Costs – DESE</u>	<u>(\$148,080)</u>	<u>(\$174,704)</u>	<u>(\$177,871)</u>
FTE Change – DESE	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<u>Cost – DESE</u> (§209.247) Scholarships p.4-5	\$0 or (\$10,000)	\$0 or (\$10,000)	\$0 or (\$10,000)
<u>Cost – DESE</u> (§209.247) Program Administration p.4-5	\$0 or (Could Exceed <u>\$208,000</u>)	\$0 or (Could Exceed <u>\$208,000</u>)	\$0 or (Could Exceed <u>\$208,000</u>)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON COMMUNICATION ACCESS SERVICES FUND	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Estimated Net FTE Change on the Communication Access Services Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This proposal modifies provisions relating to communication involving persons with disabilities.

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 Mental Health
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Department of Revenue
Department of Public Safety
 Director's Office
 Missouri Highway Patrol
Department of Social Services
Office of the Secretary of State
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
Missouri Department of Transportation
Missouri Lottery Commission
Phelps County Sheriff
Branson Police Department
St. Louis County Police Department
Kansas City Police Department



Julie Morff
Director
May 12, 2026



Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
May 12, 2026