

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2215-01
Bill No.: HB 743
Subject: Courts
Type: Original
Date: April 22, 2003

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
None			
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
None			
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
 This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
None			
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Local Government	\$0	\$0	0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator (CTS)** assume the proposed legislation would change the maximum number of small claims petitions that can be filed by a party from eight in one year to three in a 30-day period. This would be a potential fourfold increase in small claim filings.

There is the potential for a significant increase in small claim filings, but CTS has no way of determining what that increase might be. Although some of these cases may be ones that would have been filed in the associate divisions, small claim filings require a significant amount of clerk time—an average of 2.5 hours per case, because clerks are required to assist the petitioner with the filing process.

Any significant increase in court workload would be reflected in future budget requests.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2004 (10 Mo.)	FY 2005	FY 2006
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2004 (10 Mo.)	FY 2005	FY 2006
	<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.

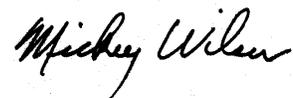
DESCRIPTION

Under current law, persons are limited to filing eight small claims actions per year. The proposed legislation would change that limit to three small claims actions per 30-day period.

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 State Courts Administrator



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