

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2528-01
Bill No.: HB 1196
Subject: Crimes and Punishment
Type: Original
Date: April 24, 2009

Bill Summary: The proposal increases the penalty for harassment from a class A misdemeanor to a class D felony. The proposal also increases the penalty from a class D felony to a class C felony if the crime is committed by a person 21 years of age or older against a person 17 years of age or younger, or the person has previously been found or pled guilty of harassment.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
General Revenue	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
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 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).
- Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety – Missouri State Highway Patrol** assume the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their agency.

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator** assume the proposed legislation would have no fiscal impact on the courts.

Officials from the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** assume the bill proposes to increase the penalty for harassment from an A misdemeanor to a D felony. An existent D felony would also be elevated to a C felony.

Harassment statutes changed in 2008. Felony charges were added at that time for “knowingly” committing the crime, repeat offenders, and when the victim was less than eighteen years of age. To date, Office of State Courts Administrator and DOC have had no felony admissions for the 2008 charges, although ten misdemeanor cases (probation supervision) exist for each of the past three years.

DOC cannot currently predict the number of new commitments which may result from the creation of the offense(s) outlined in this proposal. An increase in commitments depends on the utilization by prosecutors and the actual sentences imposed by the court.

If additional persons are sentenced to the custody of the DOC due to the provisions of this legislation, the DOC will incur a corresponding increase in direct offender cost either through incarceration (FY08 average of \$15.64 per offender per day, or an annual cost of \$5,709 per inmate) or through supervision provided by the Board of Probation and Parole (FY08 average of \$2.47 per offender per day, or an annual cost of \$902 per offender).

The need for capital improvements is not anticipated at this time. It must be noted that the cumulative effect of various new legislation, if passed into law, could result in the need for additional capital improvements funding if the total number of new offenders exceeds current planned capacity.

In summary, supervision by the DOC through probation or incarceration would result in additional unknown costs to the department. Eighteen (18) persons would have to be incarcerated per fiscal year to exceed \$100,000 annually. Due to the narrow scope of this new crime, it is assumed the impact would be less than \$100,000 per year for the DOC.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials from the **Office of the State Public Defender (SPD)** assume increasing penalties on existing crimes, or creating new crimes, will require more SPD resources. While the number of new cases (or cases with increased penalties) may be too few or uncertain to request additional appropriations for this specific bill, the SPD will continue to request sufficient appropriations to provide competent and effective representation in all its cases.

Oversight assumes the Office of the State Public Defender (SPD) could absorb the costs of the proposed legislation within existing resources. Oversight assumes any significant increase in the workload of the SPD would be reflected in future budget requests.

Officials from the Office of Prosecution Services did not respond to Oversight’s request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2010 (10 Mo.)	FY 2011	FY 2012
GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
<u>Costs – Department of Corrections</u>			
Incarceration/probation costs	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>
 <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	 FY 2010 (10 Mo.)	 FY 2011	 FY 2012
	 <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

The proposed legislation increases the penalty for the crime of harassment from a class A misdemeanor to a class D felony unless the crime is committed by a person 21 years of age or older against a person 17 years of age or younger, or the person has previously pled guilty to or been found guilty of harassment in which case the penalty is increased from a class D felony to a class C felony.

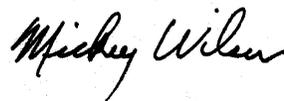
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program, and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of State Courts Administrator
Department of Corrections
Department of Public Safety
 – Missouri State Highway Patrol
Office of the State Public Defender

NOT RESPONDING

Office of Prosecution Services



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Director
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