Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

	Original		Updated		Corrected		Supplemental			
LRB N	Number	05-0755/1		Intro	duction Num	ber A	B-110			
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Right to a jury trial for juvenile who may be placed in secure custody beyond age of majority										
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SPD/ Mike Tobin (608) 266-8259 Krista				a Ginger	2/23/2005					

Fiscal Estimate Narratives SPD 2/23/2005

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Right to a jury trial for juvenile who may be placed in secure custody beyond age of majority									

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The State Public Defender (SPD) provides legal representation in criminal cases and other specified proceedings in which the loss of personal liberty or parental rights may occur. For adult clients, the SPD must complete a financial eligibility evaluation before appointing an attorney. SPD services are constitutionally required because in the case types handled by SPD, a defendant without the financial means to hire an attorney has the right to have an attorney appointed. Therefore, any bill that would increase the number of cases handled by SPD would increase SPD costs.

Since this bill does not create new offenses or broaden definitions of existing offenses, it would not increase the number of cases in which SPD provides representation. However, it would change the procedure in some of the juvenile delinquency cases in which SPD provides representation under chapter 938, Stats. The bill would provide the right to a jury trial whenever the prosecution sought the right to incarcerate the respondent beyond age 17.

Since jury trials are generally longer proceedings that court trials (in which the judge presides without a jury), SPD could incur increased costs for additional hours spent by private attorneys appointed in some of these cases. However, the availability of a jury trial may in some cases facilitate negotiations to resolve some cases more quickly. Thus, the precise fiscal effect is indeterminate, depending to a large extent on the practices that prosecutors and defense attorneys would adopt in individual cases.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications