

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DA 2/2/2012

LRB Number	11-3755/1	Introduction Number	AB-0505	Estimate Type	Original
Description Participating in a veterans court program					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under this bill, if a veteran or service member is convicted of a crime, enters a guilty or no contest plea to a crime, is facing revocation of his or her probation or extended probation, etc., the person may qualify to transfer to a veterans court. The veterans court may be in another county, and the veterans court may refuse to accept the person. The veterans court may impose certain conditions on the person. The county where the sentencing court is located must fund any community-based care, treatment, or services for the person, and pay the costs of jailing the person.

Prosecutors agree that veterans courts are labor intensive. When cases are accepted from other counties, an assistant district attorney (ADA) from the host county appears on these cases. This results in the loss of time that the ADA could be dealing with the host county's cases. If the use of veterans courts increases in the counties in which they are established, it will significantly increase the time commitment of the host District Attorney's office. This will cause problems to the host county not having sufficient ADAs to handle their own work.

Because there is uncertainty about how many cases involve veterans or how many veterans cases could be transferred to veterans courts, it is difficult to estimate the potential fiscal effect of this bill. Consequently, a fiscal estimate is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Prosecutors are uncertain about how many veterans cases could be transferred to counties with such courts. Due to insufficient data, a fiscal estimate is indeterminate.