

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DA 4/5/2016

LRB Number	15-4647/1	Introduction Number	AB-0994	Estimate Type	Original
Description Reclassifying certain felonies to misdemeanors and providing a criminal penalty					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill reclassifies certain felonies to misdemeanors. Felonies affected by this bill include issuing worthless checks, bail jumping, and second offense possession of marijuana.

A defendant is more likely to request a jury trial if charged with a felony; consequently, if fewer felonies are charged, there may be fewer jury trials. This would reduce the amount of time prosecutors spend in the courtroom. Because it is uncertain how many cases would no longer involve a jury trial, should this bill be enacted, it is unknown if there would be a savings in the District Attorney program. At the very least, there would be no fiscal impact on the District Attorney program.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

As stated above, there will not be a long-term fiscal impact on the District Attorney program should this bill be enacted.