

Fiscal Estimate - 2015 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 15-0709/1	Introduction Number SB-009
Description Jurisdiction in matters relating to domestic abuse restraining orders and injunctions, child abuse restraining orders and injunctions, and harassment restraining orders and injunctions	
Fiscal Effect	
State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	
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Date 2/2/2015	

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

CTS 2/2/2015

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill grants Wisconsin courts subject matter and personal jurisdiction over certain alleged abuse or harassment matters and over certain persons regardless of whether the matters happened within Wisconsin or whether the persons reside in Wisconsin. The bill specifies conditions that must be met for the court to have jurisdiction.

This bill may increase the number of abuse or harassment actions that are filed in the circuit courts because it expands the jurisdiction of the court to cover actions not currently allowed in circuit court. No data is available on how many of these actions might be filed. Additional court proceedings require additional judge, court reporter and court staff time. These costs are borne by and shared by both the state and the county. During the fiscal year 2012-13, the state paid 36.5 percent of the total costs of the circuit courts, and the counties paid 63.5 percent of the costs. An accurate estimate of the additional costs of this proposal, and how those costs will be borne by the state and the counties, is impossible with the data available.

There is data, however, on the estimated judicial time that would be involved in each case.

To estimate the impact of this proposal on the workload of the court system, we have relied on the Judicial Needs Assessment 2006, submitted to the Director of State Courts by the National Center for State Courts. For this study, all Wisconsin judges and court commissioners participated in a time study designed to measure the time spent processing different types of cases from initial filing to final resolution. For purposes of the study, abuse or harassment matters were included in a broader category that included other types of civil matters. According to the time study, this broad category of civil matters involved an average of 62.2 minutes of judicial time for each case.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications