

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

COMM 9/5/2003

LRB Number	03-2446/2	Introduction Number	AB-499	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Historic buildings and downtown development					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This legislation makes numerous changes regarding historic buildings and downtown development, topics which impact and involve the Department of Commerce, and also makes changes regarding major highway projects.

Historic Buildings

The Department currently administers Comm 70, the Historic Building Code, which provides alternative building standards for preserving or restoring buildings or structures designated as historic buildings. The Historic Building Code is a uniform code. Therefore, the Department currently processes petitions for variance from the code. S. 101.02 (7), Stats., indicates redress for individuals impacted by local orders that contradict Department of Commerce orders.

This legislation would require the Department to "liberally" interpret the historic building code. There would be no fiscal impact on the Department resulting from this aspect of the legislation. The legislation also allows political subdivisions to issue variances relating to handrails or guardrails of qualified historic buildings. The Department receives a limited number of submittals for review under the Historic Building Code (less than 50 annually) and therefore estimates that the number of variances granted would be negligible, resulting in a negligible decline in variances and resulting revenue. The legislation indicates redress for individuals from local orders regarding historic buildings. The Department anticipates a workload similar to the current redress process and therefore no fiscal impact resulting from this aspect of the legislation. The legislation would require the Department to develop and publish an informational brochure regarding the historic building code. The Department estimates that the workload associated with this can be absorbed within current resources.

Downtown Development

This legislation requires the Department to promulgate rules for the certification of downtowns and includes a number of factors that must be included when determining whether or not a downtown may qualify for certification. The legislation also requires the Department to develop and publish guidelines to aid communities in reconstructing central business districts that are destroyed or severely damaged in major disasters. The bill further directs the Secretary of the Department to reallocate 4.0 FTE GPR positions funded from 20.143 (1) (a) for the purpose of providing increased staff for the administration of these expanded duties.

The legislation's downtown development requirements would increase workload for the Department. Due to the current budget situation and reductions in personnel, it is likely that the Department will be unable to reallocate 4.0 FTE positions to undertake the increased workload anticipated under the bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2003 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Subject			
Historic buildings and downtown development			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$0	0	
(FTE Position Changes)	(0.0 FTE)	(0.0 FTE)	
State Operations - Other Costs	0	0	
Local Assistance	0	0	
Aids to Individuals or Organizations	0	0	
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$0	\$0	
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR	0	0	
FED	0	0	
PRO/PRS	0	0	
SEG/SEG-S	0	0	
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
	Increased Rev	Decreased Rev	
GPR Taxes	\$0	\$0	
GPR Earned	0	0	
FED	0	0	
PRO/PRS	0	0	
SEG/SEG-S	0	0	
TOTAL State Revenues	\$0	\$0	
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
	State	Local	
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$0	\$0	
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$0	\$0	
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	
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		Date	
		5/19/2003	