

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

ETH 4/25/2006

LRB Number	05-4600/3	Introduction Number	AB-1189	Estimate Type	Original
Description Campaign activity by state employees, solicitation or discouragement of political activity by state officials and employees, training programs for state employees, granting rule-making authority, and providing penalties					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill imposes restrictions on campaign activities by state employees. It requires that every state employee receive training about such restrictions within 6 months of beginning employment and at least once every two years thereafter. The Ethics Board shall by rule specify the minimum hours of training and create and administer a training program.

The Ethics Board plans to create and administer the program with existing staff through one or more options, including: (1) providing appropriate training and materials to each state agency's training officers or designees who will conduct the actual training of employees; (2) providing training as a part of initial employee orientation and regular, continuing training within each agency; (3) on-line tutorials; (4) seminars conducted by Ethics Board staff; and (5) hiring professional trainers to conduct seminars.

The Ethics Board estimates that most costs can be absorbed within existing agency budgets. The bill provides that each agency will pay the costs of its employees' training.

Because the bill's substantive prohibitions apply to every state employee, and the bill provides for civil penalties, the Ethics Board could incur additional expenses for investigating possible violations of the law.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications