Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected Supple	emental					
LRB Number 05-0221/3	Introduction Number AB-62						
Subject							
Allowing a court to prohibit defendant from contacting persons during any part of defendant's sentence							
Fiscal Effect							
Appropriations Reve	ease Existing enues rease Existing enues Decrease Costs - May be absorb within agency's be						
Permissive Mandatory Perm	5.Types of Local Governme Units Affected Towns Willage Counties Others School Districts District	Cities					
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS							
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date					
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives SPD 2/8/2005

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The State Public Defender (SPD) provides legal representation in criminal cases and other specified proceedings in which the loss of personal liberty or parental rights may occur. For adult clients, the SPD must complete a financial eligibility evaluation before appointing an attorney. SPD services are constitutionally required because in the case types handled by SPD, a defendant without the financial means to hire an attorney has the right to have an attorney appointed. Therefore, any bill that would increase the number of cases handled by SPD would increase SPD costs.

This bill establishes a new criminal offense for violation of a court-imposed no-contact order during a defendant's term of confinement in prison or jail following a felony conviction. Since the bill creates a Class A misdemeanor, it would increase SPD costs. Each new case would increase SPD costs by \$238.15, the current average cost of a misdemeanor case. Although data is not currently available on the number of new cases that would result from this legislation, the SPD could track this in the future. Additional costs could be included in future budget requests.

The bill would also increase county costs for appointment of counsel under the State v. Dean decision, which makes the county responsible for these costs for defendants who exceed the SPD eligibility standards, yet are nonetheless not financially able to retain an attorney.

This bill would also have a potential impact on county jail costs from additional defendants in jail facing charges and serving sentences.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications