

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

CTS 2/22/2006

LRB Number	05-4360/3	Introduction Number	AB-986	Estimate Type	Original
Description Offenses against financial institutions, community currency exchanges, and providing penalties					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill creates a new subchapter of ch. 943 (Crimes Against Property) that pertains to several crimes involving financial institutions. The new crimes created involve behaviors such as theft, fraud, concealment of collateral, extortion, and robbery. Some of the crimes are classified as misdemeanors and some as felonies. The bill also includes penalty enhancers for persons convicted of three or more financial crimes in an 18-month period.

To the extent these new crime categories merely replace current criminal cases for offenses such as theft, theft by fraud or robbery, then the workload of the courts would not be impacted. To the extent there are more criminal cases brought or that behaviors result in a broader range and number of charges being brought, then the workload of the courts would be increased.

It is unknown how many criminal cases will be subject to the terms of this bill. Additional proceedings require additional judge, court reporter, court staff and juror time. Felony proceedings generally require additional court appearances and more court hearings than misdemeanors. These costs are borne by both the state and the county. An accurate estimate of the additional costs is impossible with the data available.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications