



**Fiscal Estimate Narratives**  
**CTS 10/18/2005**

LRB Number <b>05-3188/1</b>	Introduction Number <b>AB-728</b>	Estimate Type <b>Original</b>
<b>Subject</b> Penalties for intimidating a witness		

**Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

Under current law, intimidating a witness is a Class A misdemeanor. If the conduct alleged falls into a certain set of circumstances, however, then the conduct becomes a Class G felony. This bill creates an additional set of circumstances under which a person may be charged with a felony. The circumstances are where intimidation of a witness is committed by a person who is charged with a felony in connection with a trial, proceeding or inquiry for that felony.

It is impossible to predict how many such crimes will be filed in the circuit court. 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**