

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

CTS 4/20/2010

LRB Number	09-3552/1	Introduction Number	SB-329	Estimate Type	Original
Description Municipal court fees					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill would increase the maximum court fee that a municipal court may charge from the current limit of \$28 to \$38. Municipalities are allowed to set the court fee at a level of not less than \$15 and no more than the statutory maximum. The municipality is required to submit \$5 of each fee collected to the secretary of administration, and the municipality retains the balance.

An accurate estimate of the increased revenues that could be raised under this bill is impossible with existing data. Most municipal courts submit an annual report detailing the number of traffic and other related cases are disposed of each year. But these reports are not submitted by all municipal courts, nor are these reports audited.

The data from the annual reports that were submitted for the calendar year 2008 show those courts disposed of 246,817 traffic cases and 74,768 adult non-traffic cases by way of forfeiture, default, guilty plea or no contest. Those cases would appear to be subject to the provisions of this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications