Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

X	Original		Updated		Correcte	d	Sup	plemental				
LRB	Number	11-1740/1		Intro	duction	Number	SB-0	74				
Description Eliminating substitution of judges in criminal matters												
Fiscal	Effect											
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					Rinehart (608) 264-9463							

Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOJ 5/3/2011

LRB Number	11-1740/1	Introduction Number	SB-074	Estimate Type	Original				
Description									
Eliminating substitution of judges in criminal matters									

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2011 Senate Bill 74 repeals s. 971.20, relating to a defendant's right to one (any) substitution of a judge in a criminal action.

Case law is well established regarding defendants' rights to bring due process challenges based upon claims of judicial bias. Repealing s. 971.20 will very likely increase the amount of litigation related to defendants and their counsel seeking to disqualify judges perceived to be biased by defendants.

The impact of this increased litigation would fall largely upon local prosecutors, public defenders and other appointed counsel, and the circuit courts. The Department of Justice anticipates increases in prosecutor consultation with Assistant Attorneys General in its Criminal Litigation and Criminal Appeals Units. A training component on revised procedure and anticipated defense motions and related litigation will likely by desirable or necessary for prosecutors. This training is largely provided by DOJ.

Because DOJ handles all felony criminal appeals, one can expect increases in Criminal Appeals Unit workload as appealate litigation increases resulting from revised procedure and unsettled law.

While DOJ anticipates increased resource demand should SB 74 become law, it is unable to quantify true impacts and demands and/or the increased number of felony appeals cases it may be required to handle due to the enactment of SB 74.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications