Fiscal Estimate - 2017 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	☐ Corrected ☐ Suppler	nental				
LRB Number 17-1564/1	Introduction Number SB-038	3				
Description medical use of marijuana, the regulation of marijuana distribution entities, requiring the exercise of rule-making authority, making appropriations, and providing a criminal penalty						
Fiscal Effect						
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Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations						
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Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DA 2/24/2017

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Description						
medical use of marijuana, the regulation of marijuana distribution entities, requiring the exercise of rule-						
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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Current law prohibits a person from possessing, manufacturing, distributing, or delivering marijuana. This bill creates a medical use defense to marijuana-related prosecutions and forfeiture actions.

Input from the District Attorneys was solicited regarding this bill; however, no comments were received regarding fiscal impact.

In previous legislative sessions, similar proposals have been introduced. Prosecutors previously stated that medical marijuana legislation would lead to a significant increase in the workload for their offices. Resources would be consumed determining who has a legitimate registry card and when it was issued in relation to the stop/detention. Prosecutors anticipate that this would open the door to greater use of marijuana because citizens will consider it "semi-legal." Consequently, there would be more possession without the registry card, and more prosecutions. Prosecutors believe that law enforcement rarely sees marijuana alone. Generally, it is linked to prescription pills and illegal drugs, which means increased caseloads.

Due to the uncertainty of how many additional cases prosecutors will deal with, should this bill be enacted, a fiscal estimate is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

As stated above, a long-term fiscal estimate is indeterminate.