

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DA 2/19/2024

LRB Number 23-1382/1	Introduction Number SB-0011	Estimate Type Original
Description expanding the treatment alternatives and diversion programs		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This fiscal estimate is submitted by the Director of the State Prosecutors Office on behalf of Agency 475 – District Attorneys. This fiscal estimate is responsive only to the fiscal and resource effect of the proposed legislation on the District Attorney program.

Under current law, the Department of Justice, in collaboration with the Department of Corrections and the Department of Health Services, awards grants to counties and tribes that have established qualifying treatment alternatives and diversion (TAD) programs that offer alcohol or drug treatment services as alternatives to prosecution or incarceration in order to reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and reduce prison and jail populations.

Under this bill, a program funded by a TAD grant need not focus solely on alcohol and other drug treatment, but may provide treatment programs for a person who has any mental illness.

Responsive prosecutors were generally supportive of this bill. The TAD programs do require a considerable investment of prosecutor time, often beyond the time required to complete a typical prosecution for the same offense. Allocation of additional prosecutorial positions should be considered as a complimentary measure to this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

District Attorneys are supportive of increasing opportunities for successful participation in meaningful TAD programs. Due to the time intensive nature of TAD programs, additional prosecutor positions should be considered as a complimentary measure to this bill.