

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 1355-01  
Bill No.: SJR 15  
Subject: Children and Minors; Constitutional Amendments; Courts; Crimes and  
Punishment; Criminal Procedure; Sexual Offenses  
Type: Original  
Date: March 8, 2013

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Bill Summary: This modifies the Constitution to allow for propensity evidence in prosecutions for crimes of a sexual nature involving a victim under the age of eighteen.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
General Revenue	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

☐ Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

☐ Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assumes unless a special election is called for the purpose, Joint Resolutions proposing a constitutional amendment are submitted to a vote of the people at the next general election. Article XII section 2(b) of the Missouri Constitution authorizes the governor to order a special election for constitutional amendments referred to the people. If a special election is called to submit a Joint Resolution to a vote of the people, section 115.063.2, RSMo, requires the state to pay the costs. The cost of the special election has been estimated to be \$7.1 million based on the cost of the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary. This figure was determined through analyzing and totaling expense reports from the 2012 Presidential Preference Primary received from local election authorities.

The SOS is required to pay for publishing in local newspapers the full text of each statewide ballot measure as directed by Article XII, Section 2(b) of the Missouri Constitution and sections 116.230-116.290, RSMo. SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. Funding for this item is adjusted each year depending upon the election cycle with \$1.3 million historically appropriated in odd numbered fiscal years and \$100,000 appropriated in even numbered fiscal years to meet these requirements. The appropriation has historically been an estimated appropriation because the final cost is dependent upon the number of ballot measures approved by the General Assembly and the initiative petitions certified for the ballot. In FY 2013, at the August and November elections, there were 5 statewide Constitutional Amendments or ballot propositions that cost \$2.17 million to publish (an average of \$434,000 per issue). Therefore, SOS assumes, for the purposes of this fiscal note, that it should have the full appropriation authority it needs to meet the publishing requirements. However, because these requirements are mandatory, we reserve the right to request funding to meet the cost of our publishing requirements if the Governor and the General Assembly change the amount or eliminate the estimated nature of our appropriation.

**Oversight** has reflected in this fiscal note, the state potentially reimbursing local political subdivisions the cost of having this joint resolution voted on during a special election in fiscal year 2014. This reflects the decision made by the Joint Committee on Legislative Research, that the cost of the elections should be shown in the fiscal note. The next scheduled general election is in November 2014 (FY 2015). It is assumed the subject within this proposal could be on that ballot; however, it could also be on a special election called for by the Governor. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a potential election cost reimbursement to local political subdivisions in FY 2014.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

For the purpose of this proposed legislation, officials at the **Office of State Public Defender (SPD)** cannot assume that existing staff will provide effective representation for any new cases filed by prosecutors due to the change in evidence allowed under this proposal.

While the number of new cases may be too few or uncertain to request additional funding for this specific bill, the SPD will continue to request sufficient appropriations to provide effective representation.

**Oversight** assumes the SPD can absorb the additional caseload that may result from this proposal.

Officials at the **Department of Corrections** assume the passage of this bill may increase the probability of convictions in cases where specifics outlined in the bill exist; however, there is no way to determine for certain if it does, either before or after passage of this amendment.

Officials at the **Missouri Highway Patrol, Office of Prosecution Services** and the **Office of State Courts Administrator** each assume there is no fiscal impact to their organization from this proposal.

In response to a similar proposal from this year (HJR 16), officials from the **Attorney General's Office** assumed that any potential costs arising from this proposal could be absorbed with existing resources.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2014 (10 Mo.)	FY 2015	FY 2016
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Transfer Out</u> - Secretary of State - reimbursement of local election authority election costs	\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,100,000</u> )	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than <u>\$7,100,000</u>)</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2014 (10 Mo.)	FY 2015	FY 2016
<b>LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES FUNDS</b>			
<u>Transfer In</u> - Local Election Authorities - reimbursement of election costs by the State	\$0 or More than \$7,100,000	\$0	\$0
<u>Cost</u> - Local Election Authorities - cost of the election	\$0 or (More than \$7,100,000)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITIES FUNDS</b>	<u><b>\$0</b></u>	<u><b>\$0</b></u>	<u><b>\$0</b></u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Upon voter approval, this constitutional amendment would allow, in prosecutions for crimes of a sexual nature involving a victim under eighteen years of age, relevant evidence of prior criminal acts, whether charged or uncharged, to be admissible for the purpose of corroborating the victim's testimony or demonstrating the defendant's propensity to commit the crime with which he or she is presently charged. Also, courts would be able to exclude such evidence if its probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Corrections  
Missouri Highway Patrol  
Office of Prosecution Services  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Office of State Courts Administrator  
Office of the State Public Defender  
Attorney General's Office



Ross Strobe  
Acting Director  
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