

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0669-01  
Bill No.: SB 136  
Subject: Counties; County Officials; Fees  
Type: Original  
Date: April 10, 2017

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Bill Summary: This proposal allows a charter county to submit to voters a proposal for a \$5 user fee on instruments recorded with the Recorder of Deeds for an assistance program for homeless persons.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<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 5 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>
<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>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</b>	<b>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</b>	<b>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</b>

**FISCAL ANALYSIS**

**ASSUMPTION**

Officials at **St. Charles County** assume a \$3 user fee on recorded documents for the County Homeless Fund. Revenue in 2015 from the \$3 user fee was \$240,951 (80,317 recorded documents). A \$5 user fee would have generated \$401,585 (80,317 \* \$5) for the County Homeless Fund. The only possible cost for implementation would be for minor software revisions and the cost for adding the issue to an election. The minor software revisions would be negligible and the election costs would include a couple thousand dollars for printing the additional issue on 280,000 ballots.

**Oversight** inquired the Jackson County Recorder of Deeds Office. The Recorder of Deeds Office had the following estimated number of recorded instruments: 124,000 in 2016, 117,000 in 2015 and 108,000 in 2014. This would average out to 116,333 for the last three years.

**Oversight** inquired the Jefferson County Recorder of Deeds Office. The Recorder of Deeds Office had the following number of recorded instruments: 45,972 in 2016, 46,094 in 2015 and 42,720 in 2014. This would average out to 44,929 for the last three years.

**Oversight** inquired the St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds Office. The Recorder of Deeds Office had the following number of recorded instruments: 206,585 in 2016, 201,936 in 2015 and 181,884 in 2014. This would average out to 196,802 for the last three years.

Using the average number of recorded instruments from the Recorder of Deeds Office in the counties of Jackson, Jefferson, and St. Louis and the recorded instruments from 2015 from St. Charles County, this would be approximately 438,381 recorded instruments each year (116,333 + 44,929 + 196,802 + 80,317). By increasing the amount by \$2 and multiplying it by 438,381, this could generate greater than \$876,762 per year in fees from the 4 charter counties. Therefore, Oversight will reflect \$0 (not approved) or Greater than \$876,762 for this proposal.

County	Average recorded instruments	Potential fee increase
Jackson	116,333	\$232,666
St. Charles	80,317	\$160,634
Jefferson	44,929	\$89,858
St. Louis	196,802	\$393,604
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>438,381</b>	<b>\$876,762</b>

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials at the **Department of Revenue** and the **State Tax Commission** each assume no fiscal impact to their respective agencies from this proposal.

**Oversight** assumes this proposal allows a charter county to submit to voters a proposal for a \$5 user fee on instruments recorded with the Recorder of Deeds for an assistance program for homeless persons. Oversight assumes this proposal is permissive in nature and would have no local fiscal impact without action by the governing body and approval by the majority of voters.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2018 (10 Mo.)	FY 2019	FY 2020
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2018 (10 Mo.)	FY 2019	FY 2020
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**CHARTERED COUNTIES**

<u>Revenue</u> - from increase in user fee on recorded documents from \$3 to \$5	<u>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</u>	<u>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</u>	<u>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</u>
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<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON CHARTERED COUNTIES</b>	<b><u>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 or Greater than \$876,762</u></b>
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FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Under current law, a charter county governing body may submit to voters a proposal to impose a user fee of \$3 on all instruments recorded with the recorder of deeds. The fee may be used for a county program of assistance to homeless persons that includes the repair or replacement of houses that violate county housing codes. This act provides that a charter county governing body may submit to voters a proposal to impose a \$5 user fee on instruments recorded with the recorder of deeds for such a program.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

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

St. Charles County  
Jackson County Recorder of Deeds Office  
Jefferson County Recorder of Deeds Office  
St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds Office  
Department of Revenue  
State Tax Commission

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April 10, 2017



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April 10, 2017