

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 1386-01  
Bill No.: SB 270  
Subject: Courts; Fees  
Type: Original  
Date: February 18, 2019

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Bill Summary: This proposal increase the Statewide Court Automation Fund court fee from \$7 to \$25.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
<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 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Statewide Court Automation Fund (0270)	\$9,500,000	\$11,400,000	\$11,400,000
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$9,500,000</b>	<b>\$11,400,000</b>	<b>\$11,400,000</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 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</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 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</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 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** assume the proposal increases the court cost collected for statewide court automation fund from \$7 to \$25. During the past four fiscal years, the average revenue collected on the current \$7 court fee was \$4,407,313 (FY 2015, \$4,514,175; FY 2016, \$4,417,240, FY 2017, \$4,312,541 and FY 2018 \$4,385,294). Based on this proposal, the \$18 (\$25 - \$7) increase would increase the projected collections for the statewide court automation fund by \$11,333,091 ( $\$4,407,313/\$7*\$18$ ). The Missouri Court Automation Committee would request a corresponding \$11,333,091 increase in appropriation authority from the statewide court automation fund. The additional spending authority would assist in maintaining and advancing the judiciary's use of automation in the local courts.

Officials at the **City of St. Louis** assume an unknown impact from this proposal. While the Circuit Clerk would collect this increased fee, it goes directly to the state. The fiscal impact on the Circuit cannot be quantified.

Officials at the **City of Kansas City** and the **City of Keytesville** assume little to no impact from this proposal.

**Oversight** only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other cities were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. For a general listing of political subdivisions included in our database, please refer to [www.legislativeoversight.mo.gov](http://www.legislativeoversight.mo.gov).

**Oversight** notes that according to the Fund Activity reports from the Office of the State Treasurer, the fund had the following activity for the past four years:

Statewide Court Automation Fund (0270)			
Fiscal Year	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
2018	\$4,439,938	(\$4,727,880)	\$1,136,825
2017	\$4,336,804	(\$3,702,036)	\$1,424,766
2016	\$4,448,596	(\$5,086,263)	\$789,999
2015	\$4,554,113	(\$4,375,956)	\$1,427,666

Source: Office of the State Treasurer Fund Activity Reports

Therefore, the average receipts into the fund over the past four years as been \$4.4 million. If the fee was increased from \$7 to \$25 (an \$18 increase), Oversight would assume revenue into the fund would increase by approximately \$11.4 million per year. With an August 28, 2019 effective date, Oversight will assume 10 months of impact in FY 2020.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2020 (10 Mo.)	FY 2021	FY 2022
<b>STATEWIDE COURT AUTOMATION FUND</b>			
<u>Revenues</u> - increases court fee from \$7 to \$25	<u>\$9,500,000</u>	<u>\$11,400,000</u>	<u>\$11,400,000</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE STATEWIDE COURT AUTOMATION FUND</b>	<b><u>\$9,500,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$11,400,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$11,400,000</u></b>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2020 (10 Mo.)	FY 2021	FY 2022
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This act increases the court fee amount for the Statewide Court Automation Fund from \$7 to \$25.

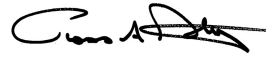
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the State Courts Administrator  
City of St. Louis  
City of Kansas City  
City of Keytesville

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February 18, 2019



Ross Strope  
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February 18, 2019