

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0307S.03P  
 Bill No.: Perfected SS for SB 245  
 Subject: Attorneys; Appropriations; Federal - State Relations; Courts  
 Type: Original  
 Date: March 29, 2023

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to the Office of the Public Defender.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
<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 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Public Defender-Federal and Other Fund*	\$0 to Unknown	\$0 to Unknown	\$0 to Unknown
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0 to Unknown</b>	<b>\$0 to Unknown</b>	<b>\$0 to Unknown</b>

\*Officials from the Office of the State Public Defender (SPD) assume having a dedicated fund for donations (instead of to the General Revenue Fund) will allow them to solicit and collect donations and/or grants. Oversight assumes since a minimal amount of donations have historically been made to the General Revenue Fund for the SPD, this proposal will have no direct fiscal impact on the General Revenue Fund. Oversight assumes this will not meet the \$250,000 threshold.

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</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 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</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 \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §600.042 – Public Defender funding

Officials from the **Office of the State Public Defender (SPD)** state the proposed legislation amending Section 600.042 would allow SPD to receive gifts and grants in a specified public defender fund up to the currently authorized amount of \$1,250,000. It is unknown how much will be received within a fiscal year.

SPD knows of no donations that have been made to General Revenue (GR) under the current statute. SPD has solicited grants from Americorp Vista for in-kind donations and would like to solicit grants from the DOJ if the Quality Defense Act is passed. That legislation authorizes substantial grants for public defender organizations that have completed workload studies and are working to establish appropriate workloads. SPD would also investigate other grant funding available.

**Oversight** assumes since no donations have been received by General Revenue through this statute, changing the designation to the new Public Defender – Federal and Other Fund would not create a material direct fiscal impact to the state.

In response to similar legislation from 2022 (HB 2370), officials from the **Office of the State Treasurer** assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note.

#### §600.063 – Caseload of Public Defenders

In response to a similar proposal from this year (SB 640), officials from the **Office of the State Public Defender (SPD)** assumed no fiscal impact from this change.

### Bill as a Whole

Officials from the **Missouri Office of Prosecution Services** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

Officials from the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact for this proposal.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2024 (10 Mo.)	FY 2025	FY 2026
<b>PUBLIC DEFENDER – FEDERAL AND OTHER FUND</b>			
<u>Income</u> - (§600.042) Government grants, private gifts, donations, and bequests made to the Office of the Public Defender	<u>\$0 to Unknown</u>	<u>\$0 to Unknown</u>	<u>\$0 to Unknown</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER – FEDERAL AND OTHER FUND</b>	<b><u>\$0 to Unknown</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 to Unknown</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 to Unknown</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2024 (10 Mo.)	FY 2025	FY 2026
	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

**PUBLIC DEFENDER FUNDING (Section 600.042)**

Under current law, any funds available from government grants, private gifts, donations, bequests, or other sources made to the Office of the Public Defender are deposited in the General Revenue fund of the state.

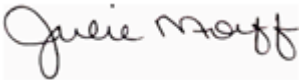
This act creates the "Public Defender - Federal and Other Fund" in the state treasury and provides that funding from any government grants, private gifts, donations, bequests, or other sources shall be deposited into such fund.

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

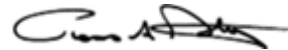
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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Missouri Office of Prosecution Services  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Office of the State Public Defender  
Office of the State Treasurer



Julie Morff  
Director  
March 29, 2023



Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
March 29, 2023