

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 5393S.01I
 Bill No.: SB 1379
 Subject: Attorneys; Appropriations; Federal - State Relations
 Type: Original
 Date: February 16, 2024

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

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Public Defender-Federal and Other Fund*	\$0 to Unknown	\$0 to Unknown	\$0 to Unknown
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0 to Unknown	\$0 to Unknown	\$0 to Unknown

*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.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- 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.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§600.042 – Public Defender funding

Officials from the **Office of the State Public Defender (SPD)** state this proposed legislation amending Section 600.042 would authorize the SPD to receive and accept gifts. The fiscal impact is unknown.

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 2024 (SB 841), officials from the **Office of the State Treasurer (STO)** stated the STO would require one (1) FTE (an Analyst at \$42,000) to handle the potential activity.

Oversight assumes the STO is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of activity each year. Oversight assumes the STO could absorb the costs/duties related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require additional staffing and duties at substantial costs, the STO could request funding through the appropriation process.

Officials from the **Office of Administration - Budget and Planning** 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.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
PUBLIC DEFENDER – FEDERAL AND OTHER FUND			
<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>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER – FEDERAL AND OTHER FUND	<u>\$0 to Unknown</u>	<u>\$0 to Unknown</u>	<u>\$0 to Unknown</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
	<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

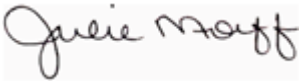
Under current law, any funds available from government grants, private gifts, donations, bequests, or other sources made to the Office of the Public Defender are deposited in the general revenue fund of the state.

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.

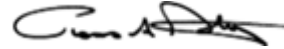
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of Administration - Budget and Planning
Office of the State Public Defender
Office of the State Treasurer



Julie Morff
Director
February 16, 2024



Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
February 16, 2024