

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 1274S.01I  
Bill No.: SB 530  
Subject: Circuit Clerks; Courts; Salaries  
Type: Original  
Date: March 7, 2025

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies the compensation of circuit clerks.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
General Revenue*	More than (\$1,211,310)	More than (\$1,482,643)	More than (\$1,512,296)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>More than (\$1,211,310)</b>	<b>More than (\$1,482,643)</b>	<b>More than (\$1,512,296)</b>

\*Unknown loss of fees collected by Marion County Clerk assumed to be less than \$250,000 annually.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
<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.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</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 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</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 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §483.083 – Compensation of circuit clerks

Officials from the **Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA)** provide the following information:

- 1) In counties of the first classification each circuit clerk shall annually receive compensation in the amount of \$94,130;
- 2) In counties of the second or fourth classification each circuit clerk shall annually receive compensation in the amount of \$90,573;
- 3) In counties of the third classification each circuit clerk shall annually receive compensation in the amount of \$85,565.

The fiscal impact for circuit clerks would be a cost of \$1,453,572 annually to the General Revenue Fund.

**Oversight** notes the provisions of §483.083.3 are removed. In this provision, each person who was ordered by the judge to make child support payments through the clerk's office in Marion County was to be charged \$10 annually on/before February 1<sup>st</sup> with the fee to be paid to the state. Oversight has no way to determine the potential loss of this fee, but assumes it is less than \$250,000 annually. Therefore, for fiscal note purposes, Oversight will present the costs provided by OSCA, adjusted 2% annually and show an (Unknown) loss for the fees that were to be collected from persons making child support payments through the clerk's office.

**Oversight** only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, cities and various county officials were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<u>Costs</u> – OSCA (§483.083) – increase in compensation to circuit clerks	(\$1,211,310)	(\$1,482,643)	(\$1,512,296)
<u>Loss</u> – OSCA (§483.083.3) – reduction in fees collected by clerk	(Unknown)	(Unknown)	(Unknown)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b><u>More than (\$1,211,310)</u></b>	<b><u>More than (\$1,482,643)</u></b>	<b><u>More than (\$1,512,296)</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
	<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

Currently, circuit clerks receive compensation in an amount based on the county or city in which the circuit clerk serves. Beginning September 1, 2025, this act modifies such compensation as follows:

- (1) First Class Counties: \$94,130 modified from the starting statutory compensation of \$36,145 that has been adjusted to \$89,330 in FY 2025;
- (2) Second or Fourth Class Counties: \$90,573 modified from the starting statutory compensation of \$31,978 that has been adjusted to \$80,573 in FY 2025; and
- (3) Third Class Counties: \$85,565 from the starting statutory compensation of \$27,218 that has been adjusted to \$70,565 in FY 2025.

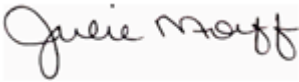
This act repeals the separate salaries for circuit clerks in those counties where court is held in two cities, in Marion County, and in the City of St. Louis. Additionally, this act repeals the provision regarding the Marion County circuit clerk charging \$10 per year to each person obligated to make child support payments through the clerk.

Finally, this act provides that the annual compensation of any circuit clerk shall not be less than the previous yearly compensation. (§483.083)

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 the State Courts Administrator



Julie Morff  
Director  
March 7, 2025



Jessica Harris  
Assistant Director  
March 7, 2025