

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
 OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2844-01
Bill No.: SB 657
Subject: Political Subdivisions and General Assembly: Religion
Type: Original
Date: December 18, 2001

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 3 pages.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Representatives of the **Office of State Courts Administrator** would expect a number of cases to test the parameters of the proposal but would not expect a significant increase in the number of civil cases, over time.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2003 (10 Mo.)	FY 2004	FY 2005
	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2003 (10 Mo.)	FY 2004	FY 2005
	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

DESCRIPTION

This proposal would require that a test of compelling state interest be applied to all state and local laws in cases which would affect the exercise of religion. No law or regulation could restrict a person's free exercise of religion unless it were in the form a rule of general applicability and did not discriminate against religion or among religions and it furthered a compelling governmental interest in the least restrictive way.

This proposal would apply to all state and local laws, resolutions and ordinances adopted before or after the effective date of this proposal.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space. The proposal would not affect Total State Revenues.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Courts Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeanne Jarrett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jeanne Jarrett, CPA
Director
December 18, 2001