

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 1817-01  
Bill No.: HB 878  
Subject: Counties; County Government; Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies  
Type: Original  
Date: February 24, 2017

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Bill Summary: This proposal allows the sheriff of the City of St. Louis to appoint deputies and assistants without the approval of a majority of the circuit judges of the circuit court of such city.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<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 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<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.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<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>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<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>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>(Unknown)</b>	<b>(Unknown)</b>	<b>(Unknown)</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **St. Louis City Circuit Clerk** assume it is impossible to quantify the fiscal impact of the proposed legislation because there is no cost limitation. There isn't any way to place a value on proposed HB 878 because there would be no restraint on the sheriff as to the number of personnel he or she can hire. The absence of this restraint also inflates the current cost of such personnel, which includes the significant added cost of employee benefits. Therefore, the incalculable fiscal impact could be very significant. Any significant changes in cost would be reflected in future budget requests.

Repeal of the current language, that requires approval of a majority of circuit judges of the circuit court on the number of deputies and assistants the sheriff appoints, would remove the current "check and balance" on the expenditure of City of St. Louis taxpayer monies by an elected sheriff. For the FY18 budget, after reviewing the sheriff's current budget request, under the current legislation, the court's Budget Committee will recommend that the Court en banc approve a specific number positions in the Sheriff's Office, along with a total personnel line item cost that includes the cost of City of St. Louis benefits. The proposed legislation would allow the sheriff to hire an unlimited number of personnel. The sheriff would have no restraint on hiring if this language is removed.

Officials at the **City of St. Louis** assume current legislation provides the Sheriff with a mechanism for approving the number of deputies by having these requests approved by the Circuit Court. The Court in turn each year requests a budget of the City and this budget negotiation process is also set by statute. By removing any separate review of personnel requests, the proposed legislation would be giving the office of the Sheriff unlimited ability to increase the numbers of his office staff. While the City would retain limits on the amount of compensation for each individual by means of the City-approved pay plan, the unlimited ability to increase the size of the office would be a detriment to the City's local control of budgetary matters and limit its discretion in balancing the budget each year.

Officials at the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** assume no fiscal impact from this proposal.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government

FY 2018

FY 2019

FY 2020

**CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

Costs - potential increase to staff of the  
Sheriff of the City

(Unknown)

(Unknown)

(Unknown)

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE  
CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

(Unknown)

(Unknown)

(Unknown)

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

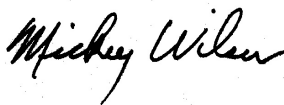
Currently, the sheriff of the City of St. Louis may appoint deputies and assistants only with the approval of a majority of the circuit judges of that circuit. This bill allows the sheriff of the City of St. Louis to hire deputies and assistants without the approval of a majority of the circuit judges.

This legislation contains an emergency clause.

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  
City of St. Louis  
St. Louis City Circuit Clerk



Mickey Wilson, CPA

Ross Strobe

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Director  
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Assistant Director  
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