

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1480-01
Bill No.: HB 480
Subject: Counties; County Officials; Criminal Procedure
Type: Original
Date: March 8, 2005

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator** assume this proposal would not fiscally impact their agency.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services (DOS)** assume there is a potential for the cost of some child autopsies to be shifted, but the number is expected to be small and the fiscal impact on the DOS is negligible.

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services (DOH)** assume this legislation would not fiscally impact the DOH. If an impact were to result, funds to support the program would be sought through the appropriation process.

Officials from the **Office of Attorney General (AGO)** assume that any potential costs arising from this proposal could be absorbed with existing resources. AGO assumes that a relatively small number of homicides would be treated differently under this proposal as compared to current law.

Officials from the **Jackson County Medical Examiner, St. Louis county Medical Examiner,**

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Greene County Medical Examiner, and the **Lewis County Coroner** did not respond to our fiscal not request.

Oversight assumes there would be a transfer of liability for the costs of conducting an autopsy when a person has been transferred from one county or state to another county. Oversight assumes that the county where the individual was transferred from would be responsible for the cost and investigation, and not the county where the individual is determined to be dead.

Because the same amount of cost of conducting the autopsy by one county would be paid by the transferring county there would be no net fiscal impact to local governments.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
	<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.

DESCRIPTION

This proposal changes the laws regarding the authority of county coroners and medical examiners to conduct death investigations. The proposal requires that when a person dies while being transferred from one county to another; while being transferred into the state; while being treated in the emergency room of the receiving facility; or by homicide, suicide, accident, criminal abortion, child fatality, or by any unusual or suspicious manner, a death investigation must be conducted by the coroner or medical examiner in the county or state from which the person was being transferred. The coroner in the county in which a transferred person dies (the receiving county) must obtain authorization from the coroner in the transferring county before conducting an investigation. Currently, both county coroners are allowed to investigate the death. The coroner, medical examiner, or medical facility staff in the county where a person is determined to be dead must notify the coroner or medical examiner in the transferring county of the death.

DESCRIPTION (continued)

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 Attorney General
Department of Health and Senior Services
Office of State Courts Administrator
Department of Social Services

NOT RESPONDING: Jackson County Medical Examiner, St. Louis county Medical Examiner, Greene County Medical Examiner, and the Lewis County Coroner



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
March 8, 2005