

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4523-01
Bill No.: HB 1401
Subject: Children and Minors; Crimes and Punishment; Criminal Procedure
Type: Original
Date: April 1, 2014

Bill Summary: This proposal removes the statute of limitations for certain actions to recover damages regarding child abuse and sexual offenses committed against a child and allows prosecutions for child abuse to be commenced at any time.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
General Revenue	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

☐ Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** state the existing penalty provision component of this bill resulting in potential fiscal impact for DOC, is for up to a class A felony. Currently, the DOC cannot predict the number of new commitments which may result from the lifting of the statute of limitation for the offense(s) outlined in this proposal. An increase in commitments depends on the utilization by prosecutors and the actual sentences imposed by the court.

If additional persons are sentenced to the custody of the DOC due to the provisions of this legislation, the DOC will incur a corresponding increase in direct offender cost either through incarceration (FY13 average of \$18.014 per offender, per day, or an annual cost of \$6,575 per inmate) or through supervision provided by the Board of Probation and Parole (FY13 average of \$5.07 per offender, per day or an annual cost of \$1,851 per offender).

In summary, supervision by the DOC through probation or incarceration would result in additional unknown costs to the department. Sixteen (16) persons would have to be incarcerated per each fiscal year to exceed \$100,000 annually. Due to the narrow scope of this crime enhancement, it is assumed the impact would be less than \$100,000 per year for the DOC.

For the purpose of this proposed legislation, officials at the **Office of State Public Defender (SPD)** cannot assume that existing staff will provide effective representation for any new cases arising where indigent persons face charges of child abuse and sexual offenses committed against a child after the current statute of limitations has expired (10 years and 30 years respectively).

While the number of new cases (or cases with increased penalties) may be too few or uncertain to request additional funding for this specific bill, the SPD will continue to request sufficient appropriations to provide effective representation in all cases where the right to counsel attaches.

Oversight assumes the SPD can absorb the additional caseload that may result from this proposal.

Officials from the **Office of the State Courts Administrator (CTS)** state the proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact in excess of \$100,000.

Oversight assumes CTS could implement the proposal with existing resources.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials from the **Office of Prosecution Services** and the **Department of Public Safety - Missouri Highway Patrol** each assume the proposal would not fiscally impact their respective agencies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
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GENERAL REVENUE

Costs - Department of Corrections

Increased incarceration/probation costs for the new crime	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)
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ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)	(Less than <u>\$100,000</u>)
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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
	<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

This proposal changes the statute of limitations for certain offenses. In its main provisions, the bill specifies:

- (1) Prosecutions for unlawful sexual offenses involving a person 18 years of age or under may be commenced at any time. Currently, such prosecutions must be commenced within 30 years after victim reaches the age of 18; and

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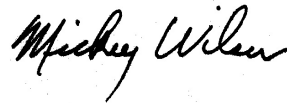
FISCAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

(2) Prosecutions for child abuse may be commenced at any time.

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

Department of Public Safety
Missouri Highway Patrol
Office of Prosecution Services
Office of the State Public Defender
Department of Corrections
Office of the State Courts Administrator



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
April 1, 2014

Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
April 1, 2014