



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 65** SLS 12RS 66

Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 17, 2012 11:57 AM	Author: MORRISH
Dept./Agy.: 38th Judicial District Court	Analyst: Glenda Leblanc
Subject: Indigent Transcript Fund	

COURTS EN +\$29,000 LF RV See Note Page 1 of 1
Creates an Indigent Transcript Fund for the 38th Judicial District Court. (8/1/12)

Purpose of Bill: This measure establishes an indigent transcript fund for the 38th Judicial District Court for payment of court reporter fees for transcripts prepared in certain juvenile proceedings, civil actions, and criminal proceedings. Funding for the indigent transcript fund will come from 1.) a taxed cost collected against every defendant who is convicted after trial or after a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or who forfeits his bond a sum not to exceed \$10.00 for criminal trials; and 2.) an additional filing fee collected not to exceed \$20.00 for civil suits filed, except actions filed in forma pauperis.

As required by state law, the 38th Judicial District court has submitted a proposal to the Judicial Review Council to review their proposed increases in court costs. The Judicial Review Council is required to notify the results of their review to the legislature by March 15, 2012.

EXPENDITURES	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$98,500
Annual Total	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$19,700	\$98,500

REVENUES	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$118,000
Annual Total	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$118,000

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Local fund expenditures are anticipated to increase by approximately \$19,700 annually as a result of this measure.

The 38th Judicial District Court (JDC) estimates annual expenditures to be \$19,700, as follows: \$1,700 for miscellaneous transcripts for criminal pretrial motions and hearings; \$6,000 for preparing criminal trial transcripts; and \$12,000 for preparing civil transcripts.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Local fund revenues are anticipated to increase by approximately \$29,000 annually from 2012 through 2014, and by approximately \$20,000 annually for 2015-2017 as a result of this measure.

The 38th JDC estimates revenue for the first two years of the new assessment to be approximately \$29,000. This amount is based on approximately 228 civil filings per year at \$20 per new filing and 2,446 criminal convictions/pleas per year at \$10 per conviction/plea.

Once the indigent transcript fund has a sufficient amount to be maintained, the 38th JDC is planning to adjust/decrease the amounts collected on both civil and criminal court costs. They anticipate annual revenues of \$20,000 after the first two years to be sufficient to adequately maintain the fund.

<u>Senate</u>	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	<u>House</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S}		
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}		Joy Irwin Director of Advisory Services