

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0470-02
Bill No.: Perfected SCS for SB 109
Subject: Attorney General; Education, Higher; Attorneys; Liability; Civil Procedure
Type: Original
Date: March 31, 2015

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions of law regarding claims against public higher education institutions covered by the State Legal Expense Fund.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
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 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Attorney General's Office** assume any potential cost arising from this proposal can be absorbed with existing resources.

Officials from the **Office of Administration** assume this proposed legislation requires legal counsel of public institutions which award baccalaureate degrees to obtain settlement authority from the Attorney General (AG) before entering into settlement negotiations for any claim to paid by the state legal expense fund. If the Attorney General refuses to approve a settlement offer then the AG may, at the request of a public institution, assume all responsibility of the investigation, defense, negotiation, and compromise of the claim.

Under current law, institutions have the incentive to settle claims that are paid by the legal expense fund to avoid legal defense costs that are born by the institution.

The amount of the potential savings resulting from this legislation cannot be reasonably estimated as there is no readily available information that could assist in forming a rational basis for estimating savings.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Department of Higher Education**, the **State Technical College of Missouri**, **Lincoln University**, **Missouri State University** and the **University of Central Missouri** each assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

Oversight assumes the Attorney General's Office would maintain a reasonable position regarding claim settlements therefore resulting in no fiscal impact to the State or colleges and universities.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
	<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.

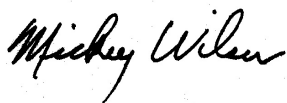
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no direct fiscal impact.

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

Attorney General's Office
Office of Administration
Department of Higher Education



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
March 31, 2015

Ross Strope
Assistant Director
March 31, 2015