COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

<u>L.R. NO.</u>: 2435-01 <u>BILL NO.</u>: SB 551

SUBJECT: Religion: Governments

TYPE: Original

<u>DATE</u>: January 18, 2000

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS							
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003				
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0				

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS							
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003				
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0				

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS							
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003				
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0				

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses

This fiscal note contains 3 pages.

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FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Representatives of the **Office of State Courts Administrator** would expect a few cases to test the parameters of the proposal but would not expect a material impact on the workload of state courts.

Officials from the **State Public Defender** and the **Office of Prosecution Services** indicated that the proposal would not directly affect prosecutors or public defenders.

FISCAL IMPACT - State Government	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	0	0	0
FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	0	0	0

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

DESCRIPTION

This proposal would require that a test of compelling state interest be applied to all state and local laws in cases which would affect the exercise of religion. No law or regulation could restrict a person's free exercise of religion unless it is in the form a rule of general applicability and does not discriminate against religion or among religions and it furthers a compelling governmental interest in the least restrictive way.

This proposal would apply to all state and local laws, resolutions and ordinances adopted before of after the effective date of this proposal.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space. The proposal would not affect Total State Revenues.

GVB:LR:OD:005 (9-94)

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of Prosecution Services State Courts Administrator State Public Defender

Jeanne Jarrett, CPA

Director

January 18, 2000