



BDR 1-297 AB 125

NON-EXECUTIVE AGENCY FISCAL NOTE

AGENCY'S ESTIMATES

Date Prepared: March 20, 2017

Agency Submitting: Eighth Judicial District Court

| Items of Revenue or Expense, or Both | Fiscal Year 2016-17 | Fiscal Year 2017-18 | Fiscal Year 2018-19 | Effect on Future Biennia |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Additional Interpreter Hours (Expense) | | \$2,612,484 | \$2,612,484 | \$5,224,968 |
| Total | 0 | \$2,612,484 | \$2,612,484 | \$5,224,968 |

Explanation

(Use Additional Sheets of Attachments, if required)

The Eighth Judicial District Court estimates an annual fiscal impact of \$2,612,484.69 at the current interpreter compensation rate of \$40/hr and, alternatively, an annual impact of \$3,029,598.16 should the compensation rate increase to \$44/hr in FY 2018.

Name Timothy Andrews

Title Assistant Court Administrator

DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

BDR/Bill/Amendment Number: BDR 1-297

Name of Agency: Eighth Judicial District Court

Division/Department: _____

Date: February 17, 2017

The 8th Judicial District Court provides in-court interpreter services for District Court and all Clark County Justice Courts, and also renders services for other Clark County entities. Interpreter staff currently consists of 3 full-time and 8 part-time positions; and, the majority of interpreter services in the county are provided by independent contractors. There are approximately 20 independent contractor Spanish interpreters and 40 independent contractors for languages other than Spanish that are used on a regular basis.

The scope of interpreter services provided by the Court with public money currently extends to all court proceedings, except for civil and marriage dissolution/custody cases. The Court currently does not provide interpreter services for such cases unless the litigants who request interpreter services have in forma pauperis status in addition to limited English proficiency.

For Fiscal Year 2016, 92,241 cases were filed in the Court, for which interpreter services would have been rendered at public expense if requested. The expenditures in the interpreters division for FY 2016 totaled \$1,558,650.00, for an average cost per case of \$16.90. If AB 125 passes into law, the Court estimates that the number of interpreter-eligible cases would increase from 92,241 to 246,848; and, at an average cost of \$16.90 per case, the estimated expenditure would rise to \$4,171,134.69, creating a shortfall of \$2,612,484.69. The estimated fiscal impact to the Court at the current interpreter compensation rate is \$2,612,484.69. See Exhibit 1.

Additionally, for Fiscal Year 2018, the Court is requesting from the County a budget increase to accommodate an hourly-rate adjustment for its independent contractor interpreters from \$40/hr. to 44/hr. to remain competitive with the market rate for contract interpreters in similarly situated jurisdictions. If the hourly rate adjustment is adopted, the estimated expenditure for FY2016 would increase by 10% to \$4,588,248.16 for an estimated fiscal impact of \$3,029,598.16. See Exhibit 1.

Please note that the Court currently does not have data that would enable it to accurately project the specific percentage of civil and family cases that would require interpreter services. This fiscal note assumes that civil and marriage dissolution/custody cases will require interpreter services in the same proportions as those case types for which interpreter services are currently being provided. However, because the Court cannot yet determine the actual number of cases or actual interpreter-hours that would be affected by AB 125, the specific fiscal impact of the bill cannot be reliably predicted at this time.

[illegible]