BDR 13-302
AB 381

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FISCAL NOTE

AGENCY'S ESTIMATES

Date Prepared: April 4, 2023

Agency Submitting: Eighth Judicial District Court

Items of Revenue or Expense, or Both	Fiscal Year 2022-23	Fiscal Year 2023-24	Fiscal Year 2024-25	Effect on Future Biennia
Additional Positions (Expense)		$1,029,134	$1,090,878	$2,382,038
One-time costs for computers and office funriture (Expense)		$110,000		
Investigation Costs (Expense)		$1,144,650	$1,144,650	$2,289,300
Total	0	$2,283,784	$2,235,528	$4,671,338

Explanation (Use Additional Sheets of Attachments, if required)

This bill as proposed will require the NV Eighth Judicial Court (EJDC) to appoint a person which is not an attorney as a guardian ad litem (GAL) to represent a protected person. The court will need to expand the size of its court-approved volunteer advocate (CASA) program to meet this requirement. Approximately 850 adult guardianship cases are filed each year with the Court. In order to appropriately train and recruit the number of volunteers needed for this program, the court will need to hire eight volunteer coordinators, one training coordinator and two legal office specialist. Each volunteer coordinator will oversee approximately 100 volunteers. The total cost for these new position is estimated to be $1.0 million per fiscal year. Nevada Guardianship Rule 8 [ADKT 507] and NRS 159.0455 govern and require GAL's to conduct investigations and make recommendations. There are a number of costs associated with these investigation, including records requests, travel expenses, deposition costs, e-filing fees, photocopies, etc. The total cost for these investigation costs is estimated to be $1.1 million per fiscal year. The EJDC has had recent success with recruiting volunteers for the CASA program to provide a GAL for every child in need of protection (NRS 432B.490) through media buys and advertising. To ensure the CASA program has the hundreds of volunteers needed to meet the statutory requirements in this bill, the EJDC will need to fund a media campaign to recruit and retain volunteers in the program. The total fiscal impact from this bill will be approximately $2.1 million in Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025. Each future biennia thereafter will have a fiscal impact of approximately $4.4 million to the EJDC, see Exhibit 1-2.

Name Christopher Saccucci

Title Assistant Court Administrator - Finance

Bill - BDR 13-302
NV Eighth Judicial District Court
82nd (2023) Session Fiscal Note
March 30, 2023

SUMMARY	Revises provisions governing guardianship (BDR 13-302)

EXPLANATION	**BDR 13-302, Section 2 subsection 4 states:** If a court-approved volunteer advocate program for guardians ad litem has been established in a judicial district, a court shall appoint a person who is not an attorney to represent a protected person or proposed protected person as a guardian ad litem. If such a program has been established, all volunteers participating in the program must complete appropriate training, as determined by relevant national or state sources or as approved by the Supreme Court or the district court in the judicial district, before being appointed to represent a protected person or proposed protected person. **Fiscal Impact** This bill as proposed will require the NV Eighth Judicial Court (EJDC) to appoint a person which is not an attorney as a guardian ad litem (GAL) to represent a protected person. The court will need to expand the size of its court-approved volunteer advocate (CASA) program to meet this requirement. Approximately 850 adult guardianship cases are filed each year with the Court. In order to appropriately train and recruit the number of volunteers needed for this program, the court will need to hire eight volunteer coordinators, one training coordinator and two legal office specialist. Each volunteer coordinator will oversee approximately 100 volunteers. The total cost for these new position is estimated to be $1.0 million per fiscal year. Nevada Guardianship Rule 8 [ADKT 507] and NRS 159.0455 govern and require GAL's to conduct investigations and make recommendations. There are a number of costs associated with these investigation, including records requests, travel expenses, deposition costs, e-filing fees, photocopies, etc. The total cost for these investigation costs is estimated to be $1.1 million per fiscal year. The EJDC has had recent success with recruiting volunteers for the CASA program to provide a GAL for every child in need of protection (NRS 432B.490) through media buys and advertising. To ensure the CASA program has the hundreds of volunteers needed to meet the statutory requirements in this bill, the EJDC will need to fund a media campaign to recruit and retain volunteers in the program. The total fiscal impact from this bill will be approximately $2.1 million in Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025. Each future biennia thereafter will have a fiscal impact of approximately $4.4 million to the EJDC, see Exhibit 1-2.

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Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Impact	FY 23-24	FY 24-25 [2]	Future Biennia [2]
Additional positions needed	$ 1,029,134	$ 1,090,878	$ 2,382,038
One-time costs for computers and office furniture	110,000	-	-
Investigation Costs	1,144,650	1,144,650	2,289,300
Total	**$ 2,283,784**	**$ 2,235,528**	**$ 4,671,338**

Positions Needed	Salary Schedule	Salary [1]	Benefits	Total Salary/ Benefits	FY 23-24	FY 24-25 [2]	Future Biennia [2]
Volunteer Coordinator	C29	$ 63,586	$ 35,822	$ 99,408	$ 99,408	$ 105,372	$ 230,090
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Volunteer Coordinator	C29	63,586	35,822	99,408	99,408	105,372	230,090
Training Coordinator	C29	63,586	35,822	99,408	99,408	105,372	230,090
Legal Office Specialist	C23	40,123	27,108	67,231	67,231	71,265	155,614
Legal Office Specialist	C23	40,123	27,108	67,231	67,231	71,265	155,614
				Total	**$ 1,029,134**	**$ 1,090,878**	**$ 2,382,038**

Investigation Expenses	Cost per Case	Court Cases	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	Future Biennia
Records - New Cases	$ 50	850	$ 42,500	$ 42,500	$ 85,000
Records - Existing Cases	50	350	17,500	17,500	35,000
Travel - New Cases	100	850	85,000	85,000	170,000
Travel - Existing Cases	100	350	35,000	35,000	70,000
Deposition	1,500	550	825,000	825,000	1,650,000
E-Filing Fees	9	850	7,650	7,650	15,300
Photocopies - New Cases	10	850	8,500	8,500	17,000
Photocopies - Existing Cases	10	350	3,500	3,500	7,000
Unknown Investigative Expenses	-	-	120,000	120,000	240,000
		Total	**$ 1,144,650**	**$ 1,144,650**	**$ 2,289,300**

[1] Minimum of the current salary range

[2] Includes 2% COLA and 4% annual performance review adjustments per year