

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 2, 2007

TO: Honorable Jeff Wentworth, Chair, Senate Committee on Jurisprudence

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1182 by Watson (Relating to the imposition of an additional filing fee in certain proceedings for the support of the Texas Supreme Court.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for SB1182, Committee Report 1st House, Substituted: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2009.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2008	\$0
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0
2012	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from <i>JUDICIAL FUND</i> 573
2008	\$217,000
2009	\$217,000
2010	\$217,000
2011	\$217,000
2012	\$217,000

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would create the Supreme Court Support Account as a special account within Judicial Fund No. 573 to be managed by the Supreme Court. Under the bill, the court would set a civil suit filing fee not to exceed \$50 for suits filed in the Courts of Appeals and the Supreme Court. Revenue from the filing fee would be remitted to the Comptroller for deposit in the fund and the Supreme Court would manage the fund for purposes described in the bill.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2007.

Methodology

Data from the Office of Court Administration indicates that there were 4,343 paid civil filings for the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals. This estimate assumes the Supreme Court would set the bill's maximum civil suit filing fee at \$50, and the bill would generate \$217,000 per fiscal year.

The fund, account, or revenue dedication (Supreme Court Support Account within Judicial Fund No. 573) included in this bill would be subject to funds consolidation review by the current Legislature.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

LBB Staff: JOB, MN, ZS, TB, KJG