

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships
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Estimated Cash Receipts

Agency Name	2007-09		2009-11		2011-13	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Total \$						

Local Gov. Courts *						
Local Gov. Other **	Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.					
Local Gov. Total						

Estimated Expenditures

Agency Name	2007-09			2009-11			2011-13		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Administrative Office of the Courts	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Office of the Secretary of State	.0	23,813	23,813	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Revenue	.4	133,700	133,700	.0	49,800	49,800	.0	59,300	59,300
Department of Social and Health Services	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Health	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Veterans Affairs	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Higher Education Coordinating Board	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total	0.4	\$157,513	\$157,513	0.0	\$49,800	\$49,800	0.0	\$59,300	\$59,300

Local Gov. Courts *	Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.					
Local Gov. Other **	Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.					
Local Gov. Total						

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Prepared by: Garry Austin, OFM	Phone: 360-902-0564	Date Published: Final 2/22/2008
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* See Office of the Administrator for the Courts judicial fiscal note

** See local government fiscal note

FNPID: 20227

Judicial Impact Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships	Agency: 055-Admin Office of the Courts
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Part I: Estimates

☐

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

FUND	FY 2008	FY 2009	2007-09	2009-11	2011-13
Counties					
Cities					
Total \$					

Estimated Expenditures from:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.

The revenue and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Responsibility for expenditures may be subject to the provisions of RCW 43.135.060.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☒

If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

☐

If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐

Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Preparation: Brian Backus	Phone: 360-705-5320	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Approval: Dirk Marler	Phone: 360-705-5211	Date: 02/20/2008
OFM Review: Garry Austin	Phone: 360-902-0564	Date: 02/20/2008

Request #

-1

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact on the Courts

The second substitute changes the bill’s approach to the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act and makes minor technical changes. None of the changes affect the assessment of the impact on the courts provided in the note on the original version of the bill.

This bill grants to domestic partners certain legal rights and imposes some legal responsibilities that will increase the number of a variety of legal proceedings. Sections which will impact the judicial system include:

Section 406 adds domestic partners to definition of “family or household members.” This extends the definition of domestic violence to include stalking of domestic partners. It also allows petitions for relief on behalf of domestic partners and therefore enables them to obtain relief.

Section 508 directs county clerks to furnish free of charge documents to the surviving domestic partner of a deceased veteran when the document is needed for a claim for veterans’ benefits.

Section 510 provides that no judge or county clerk may charge a domestic partner of an honorably discharged member of the armed forces a fee to administer an oath or to provide an official certificate for procuring a pension or back pay.

Sections 601 through 623 establish community property rights for domestic partners.

Sections 625 through 628 add domestic partners to those who may create a joint tenancy with right of survivorship.

Sections 801 through 810 change various statutes to treat domestic partners the same as spouses with respect to guardianships and powers of attorney.

Section 901 through 933 change various statutes to treat domestic partners the same as spouses with respect to the administration of estates, intestate succession, non-probate assets, the effect of a will upon dissolution of a domestic partnership, trust and estate dispute resolution, small estates, trust and estate dispute resolution, and estates of absentees.

Sections 1001 through 1050 provide means for termination and dissolution of domestic partnerships. The dissolution process for marriages is extended to domestic partnerships. Child custody, child support, and family abandonment are addressed. Domestic partners are given access to family court mediation services, alternative voluntary parenting seminar for the battered, and other programs to provide services to parties involved in dissolutions and legal separations.

Section 1048 grants to and imposes on domestic partners, for the purposes of the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA), privileges, immunities, rights, benefits and responsibilities, the UIFSA grants to or imposes on a married individual or a spouse with respect to a child.

Section 1101 provides for reciprocity for domestic partnerships or civil unions that meet the requirements for Washington state registered domestic partnerships and that are created in other states.

II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact from new case filing fees are indeterminate, but expected to be minimal given the size of the eligible population (see Expenditure Impacts below).

II. C - Expenditures

The Secretary of State's Office reports 3,303 registered domestic partnerships as of January 28, 2008. Approximately 200 partnerships are currently registered per month. The number of new partnerships registered per month is expected to level out at 3 percent annually (based on the state’s current population growth rate).

While the size of the eligible population is known, data is not available upon which to model the number of increased case filings which will result from the various sections of this bill. While the bill extends across a range of legal rights, the size of the eligible population is small. Further, the potential number of cases filed for dissolution of registered domestic partnerships (the case type most likely to result in increased costs) is limited by maintaining, under certain conditions, the ability to terminate a registered domestic partnership through existing processes not affecting the courts. Notwithstanding, the fiscal impact, while indeterminate, is expected to exceed \$50,000 annually.

The \$50,000 expenditure level represents approximately 79 hours (0.07 FTE) of superior court judicial officer time annually cumulative for all superior courts in the state with associated support staff and operational costs. It is therefore assumed that this bill would require more than 79 hours of judicial officer time statewide on an annual basis.

Costs to the Administrative Office of the Courts to modify forms are estimated to be \$20,160.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships	Agency: 085-Office of the Secretary of State
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Part I: Estimates

☐ No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

FUND					
Total \$					

Estimated Expenditures from:

	FY 2008	FY 2009	2007-09	2009-11	2011-13
Fund					
General Fund-State 001-1	18,706	5,107	23,813	0	0
Total \$	18,706	5,107	23,813	0	0

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- ☐ If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- ☒ If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- ☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- ☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Preparation: Dalene Conant	Phone: 360-586-4553	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Approval: Dan Speigle	Phone: 360-586-1116	Date: 02/21/2008
OFM Review: Regan Hesse	Phone: 360-902-9820	Date: 02/21/2008

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Briefly describe, by section number, the significant provisions of the bill, and any related workload or policy assumptions, that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency.

Section 101 would require the Office of the Secretary of State (OSOS) to send a letter twice (60 days and again 30 days before the effective date of the act) to each domestic partner registered under RCW 26.60 of the changes this bill would have on their rights and responsibilities.

Assuming the act would be effective July 1, 2008, OSOS would need to complete the first mailing by May 1, 2008 and the second mailing by June 1, 2008. This fiscal note assumes estimated one time costs to implement the bill are:

- 1) Printing and mailing costs for two mailings (4,200 first mailing and 4,400 in second mailing) (\$3,600 postage and \$10,000 printing in FY 2008). The increase between the two mailings is based on the number of new registrations currently filed each month.
- 2) Based on past experience with mailings of a similar nature, this letter will generate a number of calls and visits from people asking for clarification, advice or help. A temporary Customer Service Specialist 2 would be hired for four months (May 2008 through August 2008) to answer questions generated by the two mailings (\$9,389 salary and \$824 benefits = \$10,213 half in FY 2008 and half in FY 2009). The special phone line costs would be minimal and are not included in this fiscal note.

In the event the effective date and/or final signing into law are delayed may result in these notices being printed and mailed later which would require more costs in fiscal year 2009.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Briefly describe and quantify the cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency, identifying the cash receipts provisions by section number and when appropriate the detail of the revenue sources. Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Briefly describe the agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), identifying by section number the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings). Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2008	FY 2009	2007-09	2009-11	2011-13
FTE Staff Years					
A-Salaries and Wages					
B-Employee Benefits					
C-Personal Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Services					
G-Travel					
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
Total:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Identify provisions of the measure that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Department of Revenue Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships	Agency: 140-Department of Revenue
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Part I: Estimates

☐ No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

FUND					
Total \$					

Estimated Expenditures from:

	FY 2008	FY 2009	2007-09	2009-11	2011-13
FTE Staff Years	0.1	0.7	0.4		
Fund					
GF-STATE-State 001-1	11,700	122,000	133,700	49,800	59,300
Total \$	11,700	122,000	133,700	49,800	59,300

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

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- ☐ If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- ☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- ☒ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Preparation: Diana Tibbetts	Phone: 360-570-6085	Date: 02/20/2008
Agency Approval: Don Gutmann	Phone: 360-570-6073	Date: 02/20/2008
OFM Review: Ryan Black	Phone: 360-902-0417	Date: 02/21/2008

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Briefly describe, by section number, the significant provisions of the bill, and any related workload or policy assumptions, that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency.

This legislation adds "domestic partner" to a number of existing statutes. Section VII affects property tax statutes. Domestic partner is added to a number of definitions that refer to spouse or surviving spouse. The senior person/disabled veteran property tax exemption program is affected by the addition of domestic partner. Domestic partners are also included in the senior property tax deferral program and the new median income property tax deferral program.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Briefly describe and quantify the cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency, identifying the cash receipts provisions by section number and when appropriate the detail of the revenue sources. Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

ASSUMPTIONS/DATA SOURCES

Many data sources were used to derive these estimates including Office of Financial Management population data, the senior citizen exemption model based on data submitted by county assessors, and the Office of the Secretary of State data on registered domestic partners. For this fiscal note, it is assumed that eligible domestic partners are registered with the Secretary of State. Currently, there are 3,224 registered partnerships in Washington State.

Approximately 20 percent of the state's adult population are senior citizens. Participation rate in the senior/disabled persons' property tax exemption is about 0.1 percent. Approximately 100 new households would be eligible for the veteran and senior/disabled persons' exemption program.

The median income deferral program was created in November 2007. Due to the short duration of this program, the estimates for this fiscal note are derived from senior deferral data submitted by the county assessors. It is estimated that an additional 20 households would benefit in Fiscal Year 2009 from both property tax deferral programs when "domestic partners" is included in the deferral statutes.

It is assumed this legislation would take effect 90 days after session for taxes due in 2009.

REVENUE ESTIMATES

The state property tax levy is predicted to remain below the \$3.60 limit throughout the 2011-13 Biennium. Therefore, there will be no loss to the state school levy. This legislation will result in a state levy shift to other taxpayers of an estimated \$18,000 for taxes due in Calendar Year 2009.

TOTAL REVENUE IMPACT:

DETAIL OF REVENUE IMPACT FOR PROPERTY TAX BILLS, Calendar Year Basis

State Government, Impact on Revenues (\$000);	None
State Government, (\$000), Shift of Tax Burden	Due to senior property tax exemption
CY 2008 -	\$ 0
CY 2009 -	18
CY 2010 -	21
CY 2011 -	24
CY 2012 -	28
CY 2013 -	32

Local Government, Impact on Revenues (\$000)

CY 2008 - \$ 0
CY 2009 - (9)
CY 2010 - (11)
CY 2011 - (13)
CY 2012 - (15)
CY 2013 - (17)

Local Government, (\$000), Shift of Tax Burden

CY 2008 - \$ 0
CY 2009 - 90
CY 2010 - 105
CY 2011 - 122
CY 2012 - 142
CY 2013 - 165

II. C - Expenditures

Briefly describe the agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), identifying by section number the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings). Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

To implement this legislation the Department of Revenue (Department) will incur costs of approximately \$11,700 in Fiscal Year 2009. These costs are for the amendment of two administrative rules.

The Department will incur costs of approximately \$122,000 in Fiscal Year 2009. These costs are to reimburse local government for deferred property taxes under the senior/disabled persons' deferral program, for fees to file liens against the residences for payment of these deferred property taxes, and for the amendment of ten administrative rules. The cost to reimburse local governments for property tax is approximately \$21,000, and approximately \$900 for fees to file liens.

The Department will incur ongoing costs of \$49,800 during the 2009-2011 Biennium and \$59,300 during the 2011-2013 Biennium. These costs are to reimburse local government for deferred property taxes under the senior/disabled persons' deferral program, and for fees to file liens.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2008	FY 2009	2007-09	2009-11	2011-13
FTE Staff Years	0.1	0.7	0.4		
A-	5,900	42,200	48,100		
B-	1,500	10,600	12,100		
E-	3,800	43,700	47,500	1,900	2,100
J-	500	4,500	5,000		
N-		21,000	21,000	47,900	57,200
Total \$	\$11,700	\$122,000	\$133,700	\$49,800	\$59,300

III. B - Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2008	FY 2009	2007-09	2009-11	2011-13
HEARINGS SCHEDULER	31,056	0.0	0.1	0.0		
RULES MANAGER	78,194	0.0	0.0	0.0		
RULES POLICY SPECIALIST	64,587	0.0	0.0	0.0		
TAX POLICY SPECIALIST 2	54,372		0.1	0.0		
TAX POLICY SPECIALIST 3	61,500	0.1	0.5	0.3		
Total FTE's		0.1	0.7	0.4		

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

NONE.

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Identify provisions of the measure that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Should this legislation become law, the Department will use the expedited process to amend WAC 458-61A-203, Community property, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, decree of invalidity, and WAC 458-61A-211, Mere change in identity or form - Family corporations and partnerships.

The Department will use the standard process to amend WAC 458-16A-100, Senior citizen and disabled person exemption - Definitions, WAC 458-16A-110, Senior citizen and disabled person exemption - Gross income, WAC 458-16A-115, Senior citizen and disabled person exemption - Adjusted gross income, WAC 458-16A-120, Senior citizen and disabled person exemption - Determining combined disposable income, WAC 458-16A-130, Senior citizen and disabled person exemption - Qualifications for exemption, WAC 458-16A-135, Senior citizen and disabled person exemption - Application procedures, and WAC 458-16A-150, Senior citizen and disabled person exemption - Requirements for keeping the exemption, WAC 458-18-010, Deferral of special assessments and/or property taxes - Definitions, WAC 458-18-020, Deferral of special assessments and/or property taxes - Qualifications for deferral , and WAC 458-18-100, Deferral of special assessments and/or property taxes - When payable - Collection - Partial payment.

Persons affected by this rule-making would be those who transfer real estate, seniors, disabled persons, veterans with 100 percent service connected disability, and staff within the assessors' offices who process applications for the senior and disabled persons exemption and deferral programs.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships	Agency: 300-Dept of Social and Health Services
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Part I: Estimates

☒ **No Fiscal Impact**

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

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- ☐ If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- ☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- ☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Preparation: Marcia Wendling	Phone: 360-902-7769	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Approval: Sue Breen	Phone: 360-902-8183	Date: 02/20/2008
OFM Review: Eric Mandt	Phone: 360-902-0543	Date: 02/20/2008

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships	Agency: 303-Department of Health
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Part I: Estimates



No Fiscal Impact

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:



If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.



If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).



Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.



Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Preparation: Catherine Suter	Phone: 360-236-4544	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Approval: Catherine Suter	Phone: 360-236-4544	Date: 02/19/2008
OFM Review: Brian Enslow	Phone: 360-902-0539	Date: 02/20/2008

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships	Agency: 305-Department of Veterans Affairs
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Part I: Estimates

☒ **No Fiscal Impact**

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Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

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- ☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- ☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Preparation: Kenneth Malmin	Phone: 360-725-2165	Date: 02/20/2008
Agency Approval: Kenneth Malmin	Phone: 360-725-2165	Date: 02/20/2008
OFM Review: Eric Mandt	Phone: 360-902-0543	Date: 02/20/2008

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB	Title: Domestic partnerships	Agency: 343-Higher Education Coordinating Board
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Part I: Estimates

☒ **No Fiscal Impact**

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Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

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- ☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- ☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Preparation: Pam Mead	Phone: 360-753-7862	Date: 02/21/2008
Agency Approval: Don Bennett	Phone: 360-753-7831	Date: 02/21/2008
OFM Review: Marc Webster	Phone: 360-902-0650	Date: 02/22/2008

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Briefly describe, by section number, the significant provisions of the bill, and any related workload or policy assumptions, that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency.

This bill extends benefits to domestic partners -- it modifies a number of existing statutes to add the term "domestic partner" or "surviving domestic partner."

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Briefly describe and quantify the cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency, identifying the cash receipts provisions by section number and when appropriate the detail of the revenue sources. Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Briefly describe the agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), identifying by section number the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings). Briefly describe the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explain how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

This fiscal note reflects impacts for public two- abd four-year higher education institutions.

Several institutions report that “domestic partner” requirements are already being done. Some institutions note that benefits are already paid -- this bill basically extends the list of those who are eligible for benefits..

Part III: Expenditure Detail

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Identify provisions of the measure that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Revised

Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development

Bill Number: 3104 2S HB

Title: Domestic partnerships

Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

Legislation Impacts:

- ☒ **Cities:** Impacts candidates for city elective office, application of ethics rules, domestic violence and crime victims programs, law enforcement property seizures and real estate excise taxes.
- ☒ **Counties:** Impacts candidates for county elective office, application of ethics rules, civil and criminal court and county clerk procedures, county auditor property records, property tax and real estate excise tax exemption programs, veterans programs, domestic violence and crime victims programs, law enforcement property seizures and real estate excise taxes. See AOC fiscal note for impact on courts.
- ☒ **Special Districts:** Impacts candidates for special district elective office and application of ethics rules.
- ☐ **Specific jurisdictions only:**
- ☐ **Variance occurs due to:**

Part II: Estimates

- ☐ **No fiscal impacts.**
- ☒ **Expenditures represent one-time costs:** Forms, web sites and public information material wording may need to be modified to include domestic partnerships.
- ☐ **Legislation provides local option:**
- ☒ **Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time:** Existing procedures and rights would be extended to a larger class of individuals, but the size of any increase in the demand for service is unknown.

Estimated revenue impacts to:

Indeterminate Impact

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Indeterminate Impact

Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Anne Pflug	Phone: 425 785 8557	Date: 02/20/2008
Leg. Committee Contact:	Phone:	Date: 02/19/2008
Agency Approval: Steve Salmi	Phone: (360) 725 5034	Date: 02/20/2008
OFM Review: Garry Austin	Phone: 360-902-0564	Date: 02/20/2008

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

Provide a clear, succinct description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.

SUMMARY

This bill amends various state statutes to include language covering "domestic partners registered under RCW 26.60". The list of statutes include: civil procedures, domestic violence, witness and victim procedures, campaign public disclosure, government ethics, veterans relief and benefits, community property, real property and taxes.

CHANGES FROM PRIOR VERSION

This bill does not have any changes that materially effect local government.

PARTS WITH POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Part 2 - Campaign public disclosure and government ethics (201 and 203)

Part 3 - Victims of Domestic Violence (303)

Part 4 - Civil Procedures, witnesses and victims (401 - 406)

Part 5 - Veterans relief and benefits, exemption from certain county fees (502, 508-510)

Part 6 - Community property including real estate, rights and procedures (601 - 611); law enforcement property forfeiture procedure changes (629 - 631); competency hearing procedures (638 -639)

Part 7 - Real Estate Excise Tax and Senior and Disabled Property Tax exemption language changes to recognize domestic partners

Part 8 - Guardianship procedures

Part 9 - Probate and Trust procedures

Part 10 - Dissolution of civil union procedures

B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS

Briefly describe and quantify the expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments, identifying the expenditure provisions by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineate between city, county and special district impacts.

NO CHANGE FROM PRIOR VERSION IN IMPACTS --

The bill would have an indeterminate expenditure impact on counties and cities because, while it increases the size of the class of individuals and families that may use county and city services, it is unknown the extent of actual use. There would be one-time costs as forms and public information materials are revised to reflect the inclusion of domestic partnerships.

The bill specifically impacts local governments in the following ways:

-- adds existing (3,441) and future registered domestic partnerships to the class of individuals, couples and families that are subject to or may exercise certain rights under the following procedures administered by county courts and legal advocates, city and county law enforcement, county auditors and clerks: the full range of civil procedures including family law, property, guardianship and probate; domestic violence programs and legal protections; real property records; property seizure procedures; and administration of real estate excise and senior and disabled property tax deferrals.

-- adds registered domestic partners of local government political candidates and public officials to those individuals that are covered by campaign public disclosure laws and government ethics statutes.

C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

Briefly describe and quantify the revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, identifying the revenue provisions by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineate between city, county and special district impacts.

NO CHANGE FROM PRIOR VERSION IN IMPACTS --

The bill has a minor (less than \$50,000 per year) but indeterminate impact on local government revenue or revenue authority. The bill extends to domestic partners the same rights as a spouse under provisions that:

-- waive fee payments for veterans and their spouses for certain county documents;

-- extend qualification for senior and disabled property tax deferrals, real estate excise tax exemptions for transfers of property between spouses, and exemptions from auditors filing fees for filings of a notice of interest in real estate.

There are 3,441 registered domestic partnerships in Washington (under a new statute effective in July 2007). It is unknown how many of these partnerships would qualify for and use the listed exemptions.

SOURCES:

Secretary of State domestic partnership registry