

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices
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Estimated Cash Receipts

Agency Name	2017-19		2019-21		2021-23	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Department of Social and Health Services	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.					
Total \$	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimated Expenditures

Agency Name	2017-19			2019-21			2021-23		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Washington State Patrol	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Military Department	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Department of Social and Health Services	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Department of Health	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Department of Corrections	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Transportation	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Natural Resources	.0	0	900	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total	0.0	\$0	\$900	0.0	\$0	\$0	0.0	\$0	\$0

Local Gov. Courts *									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other **	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Impact

NONE

Prepared by: Regan Hesse, OFM	Phone: (360) 902-0650	Date Published: Final 2/24/2017
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* See Office of the Administrator for the Courts judicial fiscal note

** See local government fiscal note

FNPID: 47952

FNS029 Multi Agency rollup

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Revised

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices	Agency: 225-Washington State Patrol
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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: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Preparation: Eileen Nashleanas	Phone: 360-596-4044	Date: 01/30/2017
Agency Approval: Mary Thygesen	Phone: 360 596-4046	Date: 01/30/2017
OFM Review: Kathy Cody	Phone: (360) 902-9822	Date: 01/30/2017

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.

House Bill 1540, Language of public notices adds a new section to RCW 1.20, the Administrative Powers Act, which identifies the state flower, state flag, among other items specific to Washington state. The section notes the diversity of Washington's population and mandates the state to provide public notices regarding the community's public health, safety, or welfare in the language of a significant segment of the population of the community. The section identifies "significant segment" as five (5) percent or more of the residents. It further states jurisdictions must do this within their existing budgets.

The bill also amends RCW 38.52.070, Local organizations and joint local organizations authorized - Establishment, operation - Emergency powers, procedures, by adding a section mandating local or joint organizations maintain updated demographic data to include the language(s) of the jurisdiction and information on each. It then provides that emergency assistance and communication to the victims in a disaster be made in a manner and language the victims will understand.

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.

This bill will not provide any additional cash receipts for the WSP.

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.

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) is not mandated to provide public notices per the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) or the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). Since the bill specifies agencies that are required to provide public notices, we assume this bill will not have a fiscal impact on the WSP.

The agency currently provides Amber/Silver Alerts to various alerting partners across the state and our current system does not have translation abilities. We also issue press releases occasionally, but those are not mandated by statute or rule. Other public information is provided in the predominant language(s) of the area.

If the legislature passes bills in the future that require the WSP to provide public notices, the impact could be significant depending on the circumstances. Per the Office of Financial Management Social-Economic Conditions website, the number of households whose residents speak English "less than very well" has grown from 2.7% in 1980 to 7.6% in 2014 (latest available data). They break down the information regarding languages into Spanish, Indo-European other than Spanish, and Asian and Pacific Island categories so there is potential for having to provide notices in multiple languages other than Spanish which is already done in many cases. Per the lead agency assumption, provided by the Military Department, we would use census data to determine the demographics.

WSP staff who possess bi-lingual or multi-lingual skills receive assignment pay since they will often act as interpreters. For language fluency not provided by WSP staff, we use translation services or individuals on contract who translate when necessary. Translation services currently cost approximately \$60 per hour and would provide the least costly option for public notices.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

This bill does not impact the WSP's capital budget.

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.

This bill will not require any rule changes by the WSP.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices	Agency: 245-Military Department
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Part I: Estimates

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No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Expenditures from:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

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: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Preparation: Chris Utzinger	Phone: (253) 512-7033	Date: 02/23/2017
Agency Approval: Bret Daugherty	Phone: (253) 512-8201	Date: 02/23/2017
OFM Review: Regan Hesse	Phone: (360) 902-0650	Date: 02/23/2017

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.

House Bill 1540, Subsection 2 (1), requires State agencies that are required to provide public notices informing communities about public health, safety, and welfare risks to provide those notices in a foreign language if at least five percent of residents, or 500 residents, whichever is fewer, in the city, town, or county speak that foreign language and are of limited English proficiency. Under a state of emergency, state agencies must provide notices, information, and services in languages represented by an affected area's demographic data.

Subsection 2 (2 , 3), require emergency management departments to provide written notices, verbal notices, and radio or television public service announcements in languages, other than English, represented by their communities.

Subsection 2 (5), requires agencies to implement these notice requirements within existing funds.

The measure requires written and in some cases recorded spoken commercial translation and dissemination of public warning messages within given technical constraints of warning systems and time constraints of immanent danger.

Public warning is primarily a responsibility of Washington's political subdivisions. The Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division, maintains the Alert and Warning Center, which provides 24x7 emergency alerting and notification to the public of pending hazards and emergency events. The annual cost to Military Department to support multilingual public warning varies from year to year and depends on the number, nature, and size of an emergency or disaster. The primary methods used by the Alert & Warning Center include the following systems: the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and the All-Hazard Alert Broadcast (AHAB) system.

Military Department assumptions:

For the EAS system:

- Number of languages is determined based on census data.
- Messages are limited to 2 minutes in duration.
- Cost data is currently available for text translations. Cost for recording is estimated to be higher due additional personnel and equipment costs.
- Empirical data: 65 test and 25 real-life messages annually. The number of real-life messages can grow dramatically in a catastrophic incident.
- Messages can be translated and recorded in 40 languages in a timely fashion to be disseminated pre-incident.
- Broadcasters are willing to voluntarily pre-empt their broadcasting for up to 80 minutes for dissemination of EAS messages in up to 40 languages.
- Tailoring statewide EAS messages by individual counties' language needs increases the dissemination time.
- Federal use of the EAS system pre-empts state or local use.

For the WEA system:

- While the State EOC has the capability to disseminate WEA messages, it has not used this system at the state

level thus far. Text translation costs will apply; however, no audio recording is required.

- Messages will be translated and recorded in 40 languages in a timely fashion to be disseminated pre-incident.
- Messages limited to 90 characters, therefore separate messages are required for multiple languages.
- Users may opt out of imminent danger and Amber Alert messages all together if they consider receiving messages in multiple languages a nuisance

For the AHAB system:

- Currently ten languages have been determined to be spoken by significant segments of coastal political subdivisions based on student numbers of Limited English Proficient communities.
- Message length is approximately 40 words.
- Cost data is currently available for text translations. Cost for recording was estimated to be higher due additional personnel and equipment costs.

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.

No cash receipt impact to MIL.

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.

The Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division, maintains the State Alert and Warning Center, which provides emergency alerting and notification to the public of pending hazards and emergency events. The annual cost to Military Department to support multilingual public warning varies from year to year and depends on the number, nature, and size of an emergency or disaster. Based on public warning messages generated during last year's four-day Cascadia Rising 2016 exercise, the estimated daily cost of providing multilingual public warning in a catastrophic event is approximately \$12,500/day. The number of disasters in a given year cannot be pre-determined, therefore the annual cost is indeterminate.

EAS system annual impact: One-time translation and recording of one test message of approx. 40 words into 40 languages, at \$100 per language, spoken is \$4,000. Assuming the annual translation and recording of average 25 real-life messages, based on empirical data from recent years, in 40 languages is \$100,000.

WEA system annual impact: Indeterminate.

AHAB system annual impact: One-time translation/recording of test/real-life messages into 10 languages (English, Spanish, Arabic, Korean, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Chinese-Mandarin, Punjabi, Tagalog) spoken by significant segments in coastal counties is \$1,000. One time programming and installation of chips on 55+ sirens; re-configuration of software is \$3,365 FTE cost and \$2,400 travel cost. Annual maintenance costs accommodation of language demographic changes in 2 counties is \$841 FTE cost, and \$600 travel cost.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

No capital budget impact to MIL.

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.

No rule changes required

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices	Agency: 300-Department of Social and Health Services
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Part I: Estimates

☐ No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.

Estimated Expenditures from:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

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: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Preparation: Don Petrich	Phone: 360-902-7831	Date: 01/27/2017
Agency Approval: Mickie Coates	Phone: 360-902-8077	Date: 01/27/2017
OFM Review: Bryce Andersen	Phone: (360) 902-0580	Date: 01/27/2017

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 2(1): State agencies required by law or rule to provide public notices to a community or area to advise or inform the public about an imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risk shall provide notices in the language that diverse residents can understand when a significant segment of the community speaks a language other than English and has limited proficiency in English.

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.

The cash receipts for this bill are indeterminate. DSHS does not know the total cost to implement the requirements of the bill and therefore, the total amount of federal earnings for this bill are indeterminate.

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.

The bill could require the Department of Social Health Services to provide certain public notices in a variety of languages. However, the location of imminent or emergent public health, safety or welfare risk occurrences cannot be predicted. Also unknown is the nature of the event and the languages that are spoken in the communities where these types of incidents will occur. Therefore the total cost of this bill is indeterminate.

The following DSHS programs could be impacted by this bill:

- Children's Administration
- Rehabilitation Administration
- Behavioral Health Administration
- Developmental Disabilities Administration
- Aging & Long-Term Support Administration
- Administration and Supporting Services

Part III: Expenditure Detail

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.

Agency rules and administrative policies may require amending to conform to the requirements of the bill.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices	Agency: 303-Department of Health
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Part I: Estimates

☐

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Expenditures from:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

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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☐

Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

☐

Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Preparation: Connie Soiberg	Phone: (360) 236-4529	Date: 01/26/2017
Agency Approval: Ryan Black	Phone: (360) 236-4530	Date: 01/26/2017
OFM Review: Bryce Andersen	Phone: (360) 902-0580	Date: 01/26/2017

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 2: State agencies that are required to provide notices to advise or inform the public about an imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risk shall provide notices in a language other than English when five percent or more of the residents are of limited English proficiency.

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.

None.

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.

Section 2: State agencies that are required to provide notices to inform the public about an imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risk shall provide notices in a language other than English when five percent or 500 residents, whichever is less, are of limited English proficiency.

The department cannot predict where imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risks will occur. In addition, it is unknown which languages would need to be translated, having met the five percent usage threshold for affected communities. The costs required to provide notices into languages other than English are therefore indeterminate. However, an estimate of costs is provided for illustration purposes:

DOH will need to contract for language translation services. Based on current translation service experience using the state contract, the department assumes a cost of \$0.22 per translated word for both routine and emergency public health notices.

DOH routinely provides over 200 public notices statewide each year. Since the locations affected by a given public health risk vary by situation, both the number of languages to translate and the types of routine notices that would be affected are difficult to predict.

One assumption is that a majority of DOH's notices have a statewide impact, therefore a majority of publication will meet the "significant segment" threshold. This estimate assumes that most routine statewide notices must be translated into all 45 potentially-affected languages, based on OFM demographic data. For routine notices, the department would need to translate more than 2.6 million words per year. The total translation services costs for routine notices would be \$591,000 in FY 2018 and \$575,000 each year thereafter. A one-time cost of \$16,000 to translate and produce re-usable beach closure signs is included in FY 2018 costs.

In addition to the routine public notices, DOH would also need to translate public notices when significant public health emergencies arise and DOH activates an Incident Management Team (IMT). The type of public notice and number of languages to translate depend on the nature of the public health emergency. Based on recent experience, costs for these types of emergencies range from \$18,000 to \$53,000 per incident. Estimated costs assume four public health emergencies annually and an estimated translation services cost per incident of \$36,000, the midpoint of the cost range. The cost for translation services during public health emergencies would be \$144,000 in FY 2018 and each year thereafter.

The Department estimates an ongoing 0.5 FTE Communications Consultant 3 to coordinate, review, format, post, and update translated public notices. The estimated expenditures would include salary, benefits, and related staff costs for 0.2 FTE to assist with administrative workload. The total additional staffing costs would be \$59,000 in FY 2018 and each year thereafter.

Based on the above illustration and assumptions, the fiscal impact could reach as high as \$794,000 in FY 2018 and \$777,000 annually thereafter.

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.

None.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices	Agency: 310-Department of Corrections
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Part I: Estimates

☒

No Fiscal Impact

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

Legislative Contact: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Preparation: Eric Johnson	Phone: 360-725-8268	Date: 01/26/2017
Agency Approval: Sarian Scott	Phone: (360) 725-8270	Date: 01/26/2017
OFM Review: Trisha Newport	Phone: (360) 902-0417	Date: 01/26/2017

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 1 adds a new section to chapter 1.20 RCW stating the legislature finds that all persons are equal and entitled to be equally informed of emergency notifications in a language they understand. The legislature further intends that all persons who may be in harm's way in an emergency are informed of their peril so they may take appropriate action to protect themselves and their families.

Section 2 adds a new section to chapter 1.20 RCW.

Section 2(1) provides that state agencies are required by law or rule to provide public notices to a community or area informing the public about an imminent or emergent public health, safety or welfare risk and shall provide notices in the language that diverse residents can understand when a significant segment of the community speaks a language other than English. The requirement applies to notices that include proposed locations for criminal facilities or facilities that would house sex offenders.

Section 2(4) states that for the purpose of this section, a significant segment is defined as five (5) percent or more of residents, or 500 residents, whichever is fewer.

Section 2(5) states that agencies must implement the provisions of this section within existing funds.

Section 3(2) amends RCW 38.52.070 to state that each local or joint local organization for emergency management shall maintain updated demographics data for their jurisdictions and information on the languages represented in their communities.

Section 3(3) amends RCW 38.52.070 to provide that emergency communication provided to victims in a community will be in a manner and language the victims will understand.

The effective date is assumed to be 90 days after adjournment of the session in which this bill is passed.

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.

None. Our impacts are general fund state.

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.

There is no expenditure impact expected as a result of this bill.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. When there are proposals to locate Department of Corrections (DOC) facilities in a community, it is typically related to a capital project and there are existing requirements for public notification. Any costs related to translation services for public notices would be included in the "other costs" section of the capital cost estimate

and would be covered by the capital appropriation for the project.

2. The majority of communications with incarcerated individuals in DOC facilities regarding rules, procedures, and emergency protocols are already translated into Spanish. This is the only non-English speaking population in the prison system that exceeds five (5) percent of the population.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

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.

None.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices	Agency: 405-Department of Transportation
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Part I: Estimates

☒ No Fiscal Impact

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

Legislative Contact: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Preparation: Andrea Fortune	Phone: 360-705-6823	Date: 01/26/2017
Agency Approval: Pasco Bakotich	Phone: 360-705-7231	Date: 01/26/2017
OFM Review: Erik Hansen	Phone: 360-902-0423	Date: 01/27/2017

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 requires state agencies, required by law or rule to provide public notices to a community or area to advise or inform the public about an imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risk, to also provide notices in the language that diverse residents can understand when a significant segment of the community speaks a language other than English and has limited proficiency in English.

The bill also requires each local organization or joint local organization for emergency management to maintain updated demographic data for their jurisdictions and information on the languages represented by their respective communities.

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.

There are no laws or rules that require WSDOT to notify the public about imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risk, so there is no fiscal impact to the department by Section 2. In addition, WSDOT is not part of a local organization or joint local organization that would be affected by Section 3(2).

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.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices	Agency: 490-Department of Natural Resources
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Part I: Estimates

☐

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Expenditures from:

	FY 2018	FY 2019	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23
Account					
Park Land Trust Revolving Account-Non-Appropriated 087-6	900	0	900	0	0
Total \$	900	0	900	0	0

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

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☐

Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

☐

Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Preparation: Nicole Dixon	Phone: (360) 902-1200	Date: 01/27/2017
Agency Approval: Angus Brodie	Phone: 360-902-1355	Date: 01/27/2017
OFM Review: Heather Matthews	Phone: (360) 902-0543	Date: 01/27/2017

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 2

State agencies required by law or rule to provide public notices to a community or area to advise or inform the public about an imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risk shall provide notices in the language that diverse residents can understand when a significant segment of the community speaks a language other than English.

Recreation program staff will close trails and facilities when urgent safety risks are known to exist. These closure notices are communicated through on-site signage. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) currently has a small inventory of closure signs that are available for use during those limited periods of time while the emergency exists but are written only in English. The fiscal impact of this bill would be the disposal of those signs and replacement of inventory with signs written in both English and Spanish.

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.

Section 2 would necessitate one time cost of \$900 (including agency overhead) to replace existing inventory of approximately 90 reusable signs distributed around the regions. There is no additional staff time since we currently install a sign whenever an identified emergency safety hazard exists and remove once the emergency has passed. This bill would only change the text of the sign being installed.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2018	FY 2019	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23
FTE Staff Years					
A-Salaries and Wages					
B-Employee Benefits					
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	900		900		
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					
9-					
Total:	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$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.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 1540 HB	Title: Language of public notices
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Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

Legislation Impacts:

- ☐ Cities:
- ☒ Counties: Significant impacts for county emergency management programs.
- ☐ Special Districts:
- ☐ Specific jurisdictions only:
- ☐ Variance occurs due to:

Part II: Estimates

- ☐ No fiscal impacts.
- ☐ Expenditures represent one-time costs:
- ☐ Legislation provides local option:
- ☒ Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: How programs would fulfill the bill's requirements to provide real-time emergency communication to their populations.

Estimated revenue impacts to:

None

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Indeterminate Impact

Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Alice Zillah	Phone: 360-725-5035	Date: 02/24/2017
Leg. Committee Contact: Omeara Harrington	Phone: 360-786-7136	Date: 01/25/2017
Agency Approval: Steve Salmi	Phone: (360) 725 5034	Date: 02/24/2017
OFM Review: Regan Hesse	Phone: (360) 902-0650	Date: 02/24/2017

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

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

Section 3 amends RCW 38.52.070. Each local organization or joint local organization for emergency management shall maintain updated demographic data for their jurisdictions and information on the languages represented by their respective communities. Each local emergency management organization shall provide emergency assistance and communication to the victims of a disaster in a manner and language the victims will understand.

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.

The legislation would have significant costs for county emergency management programs. The total impacts are indeterminate.

Several programs contacted indicated that it would be difficult to maintain updated demographic data and information on languages spoken in their communities, and to identify which languages were spoken by 500 or 5 percent of the population. Emergency Management Program directors indicated it would require ongoing, dedicated staff time to fulfill this requirement.

Given the unpredictable nature of emergencies, program directors reported that they would need staff on hand capable of speaking the language that meet the requirements, or access to an interpretation service. One county reported that the cost of the translation service they employ is \$0.70 per minute. Counties with greater language diversity would see increased costs. For instance, more than 170 languages are spoken in King County. Several counties reported an additional cost would be employing an interpreter who was "court certified" in a specific language when disseminating information to residents that speak a primary language that is not English.

Additionally, programs report a limited amount of time to convey a message given the way the current emergency notification systems are set up. For instance, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) is limited to 120 seconds, and the message must convey content about emergency actions that need to be taken. The Wireless Emergency Alert system (WEA) is a public safety system that allows customers who own certain wireless phones and other enabled mobile devices to receive geographically-targeted, text-like messages alerting them of imminent threats to safety in their area. These messages are limited to 90 characters, and participation by wireless carrier providers is voluntary. However, wireless carriers do not maintain information on languages spoken by their customers, so program directors did not know how they would be able to utilize WEA to fulfill the requirements of the bill.

Given these complexities, Emergency Management Program directors reported significant investment of resources to fulfill the requirements in the bill.

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.

The legislation would have no revenue impact for local government.

SOURCES:

Washington State Association of Counties
Military Department
Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency
Franklin County Emergency Management
Yakima County Emergency Management
Washington State Emergency Management Association