

Judicial Impact Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5028 S SB	Title: Name changes	Agency: 055-Administrative Office of the Courts
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

Account	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Counties	168,700	168,700	337,400	337,400	337,400
Cities					
Total \$	168,700	168,700	337,400	337,400	337,400

Estimated Expenditures from:

STATE	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
State FTE Staff Years	.3		.2		
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	82,700	32,700	115,400	65,400	65,400
State Subtotal \$	82,700	32,700	115,400	65,400	65,400
COUNTY	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
County FTE Staff Years	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Account					
Local - Counties	107,800	107,800	215,600	215,600	215,600
Counties Subtotal \$	107,800	107,800	215,600	215,600	215,600
CITY	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
City FTE Staff Years					
Account					
Local - Cities					
Cities Subtotal \$					

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

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 for 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.

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180,138.00

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Part II: Narrative Explanation

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

The bill amends RCW 4.24.130 expanding those who may request a name change and where a name change may be sought – expanding it to any district court or superior court in the state.

Section 1(4) and (5) allows name changes to be heard in any superior court or district court in the state and expands who many request a name change. It also allows litigants to request to seal and open sealed name change files without a judge making a determination on a litigant’s safety when considering sealing a name change file.

II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

IMPACT ON COUNTIES

FY 2024 and ongoing: \$168,700

Based on name change case filings in superior courts for the past five years (2018 – 2022), there were an average of 190 filings per year. This judicial impact note assumes the number of filings would increase by twice that number, an additional 380 filings per year.

Each filing would incur a name change fee of \$203.50 authorized under RCW 36.18.010 and a standard superior court civil filing fee of \$240; for a total of \$443.50 additional cash receipts from each filing. The revenue would stay with the counties; no distribution made to the state. The cost of transmitting the order to the county auditor is assumed to be variable county to county and not included in this estimate.

II. C - Expenditures

IMPACT ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS (AOC)

FTE: 1.0

FY 2024: \$50,000 one-time staffing

FY 2024: \$32,700 ongoing salary and benefit costs of superior court judges

AOC STAFFING ASSUMPTIONS

Business Analyst. Beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, AOC would require salary, benefits, and associated standard costs for 1.0 FTE to define requirements, configure statewide court systems to implement the new fees, update system documentation, and complete system testing.

AOC PAYS SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES

With an increase in name change case filings in superior courts, this judicial impact note assumes the number of filings would increase by an additional 380 filings per year. This would increase the number of hearings in superior court. The AOC pays 50 percent of the salaries and 100 percent of the benefits for superior court judges.

IMPACT ON COUNTIES FROM ADDITIONAL FILINGS

FY 2024 and ongoing: \$107,800 estimated for superior court judges’ salaries, superior court and county clerk staff, and operational cost:

Part III: Expenditure Detail

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Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Expenditure By Object or Purpose (State)

<i>State</i>	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	.3		.2		
Salaries and Wages	28,800		28,800		
Employee Benefits	8,900		8,900		
Professional Service Contracts					
Goods and Other Services	1,100		1,100		
Travel	800		800		
Capital Outlays	500		500		
Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
Grants, Benefits & Client Services	32,700	32,700	65,400	65,400	65,400
Debt Service					
Interagency Reimbursements					
Intra-Agency Reimbursements	9,900		9,900		
Total \$	82,700	32,700	115,400	65,400	65,400

III. B - Expenditure By Object or Purpose (County)

<i>County</i>	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Salaries and Benefits	107,800	107,800	215,600	215,600	215,600
Capital					
Other					
Total \$	107,800	107,800	215,600	215,600	215,600

III. C - Expenditure By Object or Purpose (City)

<i>City</i>	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years					
Salaries and Benefits					
Capital					
Other					
Total \$					

III. C - Expenditure By Object or Purpose (City)

NONE

III. D - FTE Detail

<i>Job Classification</i>	<i>Salary</i>	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Business Analyst	101,100	0.3		0.2		
Clerk Staff/Court Administration	54,256	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Judicial Officer	110,000	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total FTEs		1.6	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.3

III. E - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

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NONE

IV. B1 - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose (State)

NONE

IV. B2 - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose (County)

NONE

IV. B3 - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose (City)

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

None