# **Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary**

Bill Number: 5061 S SB Title: Personnel records

# **Estimated Cash Receipts**

Agency Name		2023-25			2025-27				
	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Department of	0	0	159,000	0	0	154,000	0	0	154,000
Social and Health									
Services									
Total \$	0	0	159,000	0	0	154,000	0	0	154,000

Agency Name	2023	3-25	2025	-27	2027-29	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts	No fiscal impac	t				
Loc School dist-SPI	Fiscal note not a	available				
Local Gov. Other						
Local Gov. Total		_				

# **Estimated Operating Expenditures**

Agency Name		20	023-25			2	025-27				2027-29	
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Administrative Office of the Courts	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Labor and Industries	.3	0	0	332,000	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Social and Health Services	3.5	562,000	562,000	721,000	3.5	546,000	546,000	700,000	3.5	546,000	546,000	700,000
Employment Security Department	.5	0	0	133,250	.5	0	0	133,250	.5	0	0	133,250
SWF Statewide Fiscal Note - OFM	Non-zei	o but indeterm	ninate cost and/	or savings. Pl	ease see	discussion.						
Total \$	43	562 000	562 000	1 186 250	4.0	546 000	546 000	833 250	40	546 000	546 000	833 250

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	
Local Gov. Courts	No fis	cal impact								
Loc School dist-SPI	Fiscal	Fiscal note not available								
Local Gov. Other	Non-z	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total										

# **Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures**

Agency Name		2023-25			2025-27			2027-29	
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Administrative Office of the Courts	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Labor and Industries	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Social and Health Services	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Employment Security Department	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
SWF Statewide Fiscal Note - OFM	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Agency Name		2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	
Local Gov. Courts	No fis	cal impact								
Loc School dist-SPI	Fiscal	Fiscal note not available								
Local Gov. Other	Non-z	ero but indeterm	inate cost and	d/or savi	ngs. Please see	discussion.				
Local Gov. Total										

# **Estimated Capital Budget Breakout**

Prepared by: Anna Minor, OFM	Phone:	Date Published:
	(360) 790-2951	Preliminary 3/15/2023

# **Judicial Impact Fiscal Note**

Bill Number: 5061 S SB	Title: Personnel records	Agency:	055-Administrative Office of the Courts
Part I: Estimates		•	
X No Fiscal Impact			
Estimated Cash Receipts to:			
NONE			
<b>Estimated Expenditures from:</b>			
NONE			
Estimated Capital Budget Impact:	:		
NONE			
subject to the provisions of RCW 43.  Check applicable boxes and follo  If fiscal impact is greater than Parts I-V.	w corresponding instructions:  n \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current bi  50,000 per fiscal year in the current bienr	ennium or in subsequent biennia	, complete entire fiscal note fo
Legislative Contact Julie Murra	у	Phone: 786-7711	Date: 02/09/2023
Agency Preparation: Angie Wirk	kala	Phone: 360-704-5528	Date: 02/09/2023
Agency Approval: Chris Stanle	ey	Phone: 360-357-2406	Date: 02/09/2023

 182,693.00
 Request # 161-1

 Form FN (Rev 1/00)
 1

 Bill # 5061 S SB

Phone: (360) 819-3112

Date: 02/14/2023

Gaius Horton

ΦFM Review:

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

The substitute would add that former employees may sue for violations.

The proposed legislation amends RCWs 49.12.250 establishing a timeframe for when an employer must provide an employee with their personnel record and creates a new private cause of action in superior court.

#### II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

#### II. C - Expenditures

No fiscal impact is expected to the Administrative Office of the Courts or the courts. The bill could cause additional case filings (now increased by including former employees), but impact is expected to be small. No changes or minimal changes are expected to superior court case management systems.

## Part III: Expenditure Detail

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

NONE

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

**NONE** 

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

NONE

III. D - FTE Detail

NONE

III. E - Expenditures By Program (optional)

**NONE** 

# Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

**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** 

182,693.00 Request # 161-1

Form FN (Rev 1/00) 2 Bill # 5061 S SB

# **Individual State Agency Fiscal Note**

Bill Number: 5061 S SB	Title:	Personnel records		A	gency: 235-Depart Industries	ment of Labor and
Part I: Estimates						
No Fiscal Impact						
Estimated Cash Receipts to:						
NONE						
	e					
Estimated Operating Expenditu	ares from:	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years		0.5	0.0	_	0.0	0.0
Account						
	608-1	282,000	C		0	
Medical Aid Account-State	609	50,000	C	50,000	0	0
1	Total \$	332,000	C	332,000	0	0
The cash receipts and expenditure	e estimates on	this page represent the	e most likely fiscal	impact. Factors imp	pacting the precision o	of these estimates,
and alternate ranges (if appropria						
Check applicable boxes and fo	_	_	annuant biomainu	ih	hiomnia aominista a	ntina figaal nata
X If fiscal impact is greater the form Parts I-V.	ian \$30,000 p	ber fiscal year in the	current blenmur	n or in subsequent	oiennia, compiete e	mire fiscal note
If fiscal impact is less than	\$50,000 per	fiscal year in the cu	rrent biennium o	r in subsequent bie	ennia, complete this	page only (Part I)
Capital budget impact, con	nplete Part IV	<i>I</i> .				
X Requires new rule making.	, complete Pa	nrt V.				
Legislative Contact: Julie M	Iurray			Phone: 786-7711	Date: 0	2/09/2023
Agency Preparation: Rachel	Reed			Phone: 360-902-4	552 Date: 0	2/14/2023
	Howard			Phone: 360-902-6	698 Date: 0	2/14/2023

Anna Minor

OFM Review:

Date: 02/14/2023

Phone: (360) 790-2951

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

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

See attached.

#### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

See attached.

#### II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

See attached.

# Part III: Expenditure Detail

#### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
608-1	Accident Account	State	282,000	0	282,000	0	0
609-1	Medical Aid Account	State	50,000	0	50,000	0	0
		Total \$	332,000	0	332,000	0	0

#### III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.5		0.3		
A-Salaries and Wages	45,000		45,000		
B-Employee Benefits	16,000		16,000		
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	271,000		271,000		
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 \$	332,000	0	332,000	0	0

# III. C - Operating FTE 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 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Administrative Regulations Analyst 4	85,020	0.5		0.3		
Total FTEs		0.5		0.3		0.0

#### III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

**NONE** 

# Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

## IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

**NONE** 

#### IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

#### IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

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

**NONE** 

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.

**NONE** 

## Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

See attached.

## Part II: Explanation

This bill relates to employer requirements for responding to employee or former employee requests for their personnel files as well responding to former employee requests for statements regarding the effective date and reason for their termination.

#### PSSB 5061 is different from SB 5061 in that it:

- Adds former employees to the private right of action;
- Provides \$500 statutory damages for "any other violations";
- Updates all periods relating to employer requirement to calendar days;
- Clarifies that the personnel files the employer must furnish are files that exist at the time of the request and that an employer is not required to create personnel records;
- Removes provisions for redaction by public employers;
- Allows health care providers to redact patient information if required by the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and requires a redaction log for any such redaction;
- Adds that the files must be complete and include redaction logs;
- Adds that unless a personnel file request specifies that it is made under the Public Records Act, a public employer must treat the request as made under this bill and the request is not subject to the Public Records Act; and
- Adds that the definition of employer, for the purposes of the Employment Security
   Department (ESD) notices, is as defined by RCW 50A.05.010.

# II. A – Brief Description of What the Measure Does that Has Fiscal Impact

**Section 2(1)** amends RCW 49.12.250(1) by providing a new time frame (14 calendar days) that the employer must make an unredacted copy of an employee or former employee's personnel file(s) available to them at no cost, as the contents of the file(s) exist at the time of the request.

**Section 2(4)** adds a provision requiring employers to, within 14 calendar days of receiving a written request from a former employee, furnish a signed written statement to the former

employee stating the effective date of discharge, whether the employer had a reason for the discharge, and if so, the reasons.

**Section 2(5)** allows employees and former employees to pursue private rights of action for violations of the law and establishes statutory damages including equitable relief and attorney fees and costs. Therefore, there is no enforcement role for the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I).

**Section 2(10)** requires L&I to develop and furnish to each employer information which describes an employer's obligations and employee's rights under this section. L&I must provide this information to employers at least annually, which may include being provided with other annual notices. Failure to provide the information does not relieve an employer of its obligations under this section.

## II. B – Cash Receipt Impact

#### **Receivables - Operating**

This bill allows an employee or former employee to enforce this section through private right of action. There is no enforcement role for L&I, and therefore no fiscal impact in terms of penalties issued to employers.

# II. C – Expenditures

#### **Appropriated – Operating Costs**

This bill increases expenditures to the Accident Fund, fund 608 and the Medical Aid Fund, fund 609. The following assumptions were used to estimate the resources requested to implement this bill.

#### **Staffing**

.5 FTE, Administrative Regulations Analyst 4, temporary July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Duties include rulemaking, conducting public hearings, updating outreach publications and resources for stakeholders, and drafting administrative policies and technical guidance. The assumptions for this calculation are:

- This version of the bill adds language expanding penalties to include a \$500 penalty for "any other violations," requiring further specificity through policy guidance.
- This version of the bill adds language that expands the protections from only employees to "employees or former employees," increasing the number of protected workers.
- Stakeholdering, rulemaking, and policy activities are complex in nature and require .5
   FTE until these tasks are complete. A temporary ARA 4 would be needed to oversee the rulemaking, policy work, and updating of outreach publications and resources required to implement this bill.

#### **Marketing and Outreach**

\$207,447 will be necessary for outreach during fiscal year 2024 to effectively implement this bill, which directs L&I to develop and furnish information for each employer describing the employer's obligations and an employee's rights. The outreach will be in the form of direct mail to approximately 260,000 employers. Annual notifications will be done as part of our normal annual notifications.

#### **Printing and Translation**

\$50,000 is needed during fiscal year 2024 for printing and translation costs relating to updating multiple worker-rights printed posters, printed pamphlets, and online publications, including *Your Rights as a Worker, Employee Rights to Equal Pay and Opportunities, Isolated Worker Employee Concerns, New Employee Packet, Pocket Guide to Worker Rights*, and others.

#### **Rule making**

\$7,500 is needed for 3 rule making hearings to occur during fiscal year 2024. The average cost of one rule making hearing is \$2,500. (3 hearings x \$2,500 each = \$7,500)

#### **Indirect Costs**

The amount included in this fiscal note for indirect is:

Fund	Name	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
608	Accident	3,000					
609	Medical Aid	0					
	Total:	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

The department assesses an indirect rate to cover agency-wide administrative costs. Labor and Industries' indirect rate is applied on salaries, benefits, and standard costs. For fiscal note purposes, the total indirect amount is converted into salary and benefits for partial or full indirect FTEs. Salary and benefits costs are based on a Fiscal Analyst 5 (Range 59, Step G).

#### L&I as an Employer

For the agency as an employer, all personnel files are currently maintained electronically and could be provided within the requested timeframe. L&I anticipates that the requirements of this bill could be incorporated into normal business operations at little to no cost, including the 14 calendar day turnaround time for providing employee and former employee personnel files and discharge statements.

## Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

None.

## Part V: New Rule Making Required

This legislation would result in rule changes to:

• WAC 296-126-050, Employment records.

# **Individual State Agency Fiscal Note**

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## **Part I: Estimates**

No Fis	cal Impac
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#### **Estimated Cash Receipts to:**

ACCOUNT	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
General Fund-Federal 001-2	82,000	77,000	159,000	154,000	154,000
Total S	82,000	77,000	159,000	154,000	154,000

#### **Estimated Operating Expenditures from:**

		FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years		3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Account						
General Fund-State	001-1	289,000	273,000	562,000	546,000	546,000
General Fund-Federal	001-2	82,000	77,000	159,000	154,000	154,000
	Total \$	371,000	350,000	721,000	700,000	700,000

#### **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:

X	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:	Julie Murray	Phone: 786-7711	Date: 02/09/2023
Agency Preparation:	Teresa Elliott	Phone: 360-902-8177	Date: 02/23/2023
Agency Approval:	Dan Winkley	Phone: 360-902-8236	Date: 02/23/2023
OFM Review:	Jason Brown	Phone: (360) 742-7277	Date: 02/28/2023

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

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

This bill requires employers to provide a complete, unredacted copy of their personnel file to an employee, former employees, or their agent or fiduciary, within 14 calendar days of the request. This bill adds specific penalties and gives employees the right to take legal action for not providing the records within 14 calendar days.

The bill also requires an employer to provide a signed written statement stating the reasons (if given) for dismissal within 14 business days of receiving a request.

Changes from the previous version:

Section 2 (1) adds as the contents of the file exist at the time of the request.

Section 2 (4) changes 14 business days to 14 calendar days.

Section 5 adds employee or former employee; adds or redaction log to the documentation required; specifies calendar days; specifies the statutory damages for any other violation will be \$500.

Section 9 is changed to specify a health care provider may redact patient information rather than a public employer may redact information.

#### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

It is assumed that the provisions of this bill would be eligible for federal funding based on the DSHS cost allocation plan for program 110.

#### II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Human Recourse Division (HRD) estimates it will need 2 FTEs and the Office of Accounting Services (OAS) will need 1.5 FTEs to perform the requirements of this bill. Currently, DSHS interprets RCW 49.12.250(1) to only apply to current employees, all other requests are handled through the public disclosure process. Under the public disclosure process Coordinators can set their own timelines for response based on current workloads. This bill requires the records be produced within 14 calendar days, significantly quicker than current estimated response times of 30-60 business days.

Last year there were 300 requests (25 per month) for files matching the description of "personnel file". It takes between eight to ten hours on average to gather the documents if they are available online. If the file, or part of the file, is at the record center it could take up to two weeks to get it back to the office.

The positions will be dedicated to gathering personnel and payroll files from multiple systems and sources including:

- -DSHS Imaging System
- -Human Resource Management System (HRMS)
- -Leave Tracker
- -Record Center

The HRD staff will gather the personnel file and the OAS staff will gather the payroll and leave portions of the employee's record. A process will have to be developed to combine the files and decide who sends it to the requester.

# Part III: Expenditure Detail

#### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
001-1	General Fund	State	289,000	273,000	562,000	546,000	546,000
001-2	General Fund	Federal	82,000	77,000	159,000	154,000	154,000
		Total \$	371,000	350,000	721,000	700,000	700,000

#### III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
A-Salaries and Wages	216,000	216,000	432,000	432,000	432,000
B-Employee Benefits	97,000	97,000	194,000	194,000	194,000
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	21,000	21,000	42,000	42,000	42,000
G-Travel					
J-Capital Outlays	21,000		21,000		
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service	2,000	2,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements	14,000	14,000	28,000	28,000	28,000
9-					
Total \$	371,000	350,000	721,000	700,000	700,000

# III. C - Operating FTE 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 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Forms and Records Analyst 3		3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Total FTEs		3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5

#### III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

Program	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Administrative and Suport Services (110)	371,000	350,000	721,000	700,000	700,000
Total \$	371,000	350,000	721,000	700,000	700,000

# Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

**NONE** 

#### IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

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

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.

NONE

# Part V: New Rule Making Required Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

# **Individual State Agency Fiscal Note**

Bill Number: 5061 S SB	Title:	Personnel records			Agen	cy: 540-Employ Department	•
Part I: Estimates							
No Fiscal Impact							
Estimated Cash Receipts to:							
NONE							
Estimated Operating Expenditures	s from:						
		FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-2	5	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5
Account							
Employment Service Administrativ	e	66,625	66,625	133,	250	133,250	133,250
Account-State 134-1		20.005	00.005	100	050	100.050	400.050
<u>'</u>	Total \$	66,625	66,625	133,	250	133,250	133,250
The cash receipts and expenditure est	timates on	n this nage represent the	most likely fiscal	impact Factor	s impact	ing the precision o	f these estimates
and alternate ranges (if appropriate),	are explo	ained in Part II.	most tively fiscul	impuei. Tueteri	mpaci	ing the precision of	inese estimates,
Check applicable boxes and follow	v corresp	onding instructions:					
X If fiscal impact is greater than form Parts I-V.	\$50,000	per fiscal year in the	current bienniun	n or in subsequ	ient biei	nnia, complete ei	ntire fiscal note
If fiscal impact is less than \$50	0,000 pe	r fiscal year in the cur	rent biennium o	r in subsequen	t bienni	a, complete this	page only (Part I
Capital budget impact, comple	ete Part I	V.					
Requires new rule making, con	mplete P	art V.					
Legislative Contact: Julie Murr	ay			Phone: 786-7	711	Date: 02	//09/2023
Agency Preparation: Sundara C	han			Phone: 360-89	90-3669	Date: 02	2/14/2023
Agency Approval: Lisa Hend	erson			Phone: 360-9	)2-9291	Date: 02	2/14/2023
OFM Review: Anna Min	or			Phone: (360)	790-295	51 Date: 02	2/14/2023

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

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

The bill adds a maximum 14-day turnaround for employers to provide personnel files when requested by an employee, former employee, their attorney, agent, or fiduciary. The bill gives employees a right to enforce this measure through a lawsuit, where they can collect penalties and attorney fees. The bill also requires Department of Labor and Industries (LNI) and Employment Security Department (ESD) to notify employers of their obligations and employee's rights to access their personnel file.

SSB 5061 is different from SB 5061 in that:

Section 2 (5) provides a method for an employee to enforce this section through private cause of action in superior court. This adds penalties of \$250 if a file is not provided within 14 days, \$500 if not provided in 28 days, and \$1,000 if provided later than 28 days, and statutory damages for any other violations of \$500. The employee may also collect reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Section 2 (9) allows redaction by public employers if the request is made under RCW 42.56. The employer must provide the reason for any redaction and cite supporting laws. If not made under RCW 42.56 then the records would be provided without redaction as required in this bill.

Section 2 (10) (a) and (c) requires Labor and Industries to develop and provide each employer information describing employer's obligations and employee's rights under this section. Labor and Industries AND Employment Security must provide this information to employers at least annually, either alone or as part of other annual notices. Employers are defined in RCW 50A.05.010 which are PFML employers and already receive an annual notice from ESD this can be included with.

#### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None

#### II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Section 2 (4) imposes a 14-calender day deadline on providing personnel files to current and former employees. Human Resources (HR) is asking for a permanent 0.5 FTE as a Human Resource Consultant 2 (HRC 2) to be able to obtain all documentation timely. Current requests often do not meet the 14-calendar day deadline due to time needed to gather documents from various sources. This bill's definition of what has to be provided in a personnel file is broader than what ESD keeps in personnel files. There is time needed to obtain documents from various sources and ensure accuracy of contents before providing to the requestor.

Section 2 (10) would require ESD to send a notice to all employers under Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) RCW 50A.05.010 ESD already mails a notice to these employers both via physical mail and email depending on what contact information ESD has for the business. LNI is creating a notice which ESD will then send out. ESD has the addresses for 193,000 employers and ESD printing estimates the cost of adding a page to be \$0.05 for a full page. This would add \$9,650 annually to the cost of mailing the notices.

Both the sections above cause ongoing impact to HR and Administrative Services Division (ASD) to adopt and comply with the new standards and policies. To accomplish this work ESD will need the following ongoing cost to ensure our compliance:

#### 0.5 FTE Human Resource Consultant 2

To be able to obtain all documentation timely from various sources.

Total cost is \$56,975 per year.

Additional cost is needed to add a letter to existing notice to all PFML employers reporting to ESD. 193,000 (PFML employers) \* \$0.05 (cost per letter) = \$9,650

Total cost for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and ongoing is \$56,975 (0.5 FTE) + \$9,650 (Additional cost) = \$66,625

## Part III: Expenditure Detail

#### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
134-1	Employment Service Administrative Account	State	66,625	66,625	133,250	133,250	133,250
		Total \$	66,625	66,625	133,250	133,250	133,250

#### III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
A-Salaries and Wages	29,566	29,566	59,132	59,132	59,132
B-Employee Benefits	11,826	11,826	23,652	23,652	23,652
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	17,225	17,225	34,450	34,450	34,450
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	8,008	8,008	16,016	16,016	16,016
9-					
Total \$	66,625	66,625	133,250	133,250	133,250

# III. C - Operating FTE 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 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
HUMAN RESOURCE CONSULTAN	56,975	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
2						
Total FTEs		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

#### III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

**NONE** 

# Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

#### IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

**NONE** 

#### IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

**NONE** 

#### IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

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

**NONE** 

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.

**NONE** 

None

# Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number:	5061 S SB	Title: Personnel re	cords
Part I: Juri	sdiction-Location	on, type or status of po	litical subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.
<b>Legislation I</b>	mpacts:		
X Cities: All	cities		
X Counties:	All counties		
X Special Distr	ricts: All special dis	tricts	
Specific juris	sdictions only:		
Variance occ	eurs due to:		
Part II: Es	timates		
No fiscal im	pacts.		
Expenditure	es represent one-time	costs:	
Legislation :	provides local option	:	
X Key variable	es cannot be estimate	d with certainty at this time	The number of current or former employees will request personnel files; the amount of staff time required to furnish personnel records for each jurisdiction.
Estimated reve	nue impacts to:		
None			
Estimated expe	enditure impacts to:		
	Non-zero	but indeterminate cost a	nd/or savings. Please see discussion.

# Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Chelsea Mickel	Phone:	518-727-3478	Date:	02/14/2023
Leg. Committee Contact: Julie Murray	Phone:	786-7711	Date:	02/09/2023
Agency Approval: Alice Zillah	Phone:	360-725-5035	Date:	02/14/2023
OFM Review: Anna Minor	Phone:	(360) 790-2951	Date:	02/14/2023

Page 1 of 3 Bill Number: 5061 S SB

FNS060 Local Government Fiscal Note

# Part IV: Analysis

#### A. SUMMARY OF BILL

Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.

#### CHANGES BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

- --States that the content of the personnel files that must be furnished are the contents that exist at the time of the request.
- -- Makes all time periods calendar days.
- --Add a former employee to the private right of action. For the statutory penalties, the files must be complete, it includes redaction logs, and provides \$500 statutory damages for any other violations.
- --States that an employer is not required to create personnel records; rather the employer must furnish the records that the employer has already created.
- --Removes provisions for redaction by public employers. Allows health care providers to redact patient information if required by HIPAA and provide a redaction log.
- --Provides that unless a personnel file request specifies that it is made under the Public Records Act, a public employer must treat the request as made under this bill and the request is not subject to the Public Records Act.
- --Provides a specific definition of employer for the requirement for ESD to provide information to employers in annually.

#### SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL:

- --Requires an employer to furnish an employee with a complete, un-redacted copy of their personnel file at no cost within 14 calendar days of a request.
- --Mandates an employer to furnish a former employee with a signed written statement with the effective date of discharge, whether the employer had a reason for the discharge, and if so, the reasons, within 14 calendar days of the written request.
- --Allows an employee or former employee to bring a private action for violations of certain rights regarding personnel files, discharge information, and redaction logs, and entitles the employee to equitable relief, graduated statutory damages up to \$1,000, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of each violation.

#### B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS

Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

#### CHANGES IN EXPENDITURE IMPACTS BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

The substitute version of this bill may decrease local government expenditures compared to the original version of the bill. The current language removes provisions for redaction by public employers, and clarifies that employers are not required to create personnel records, employers must only furnish the records that employers have already created. Both of these revisions would save costs in terms of staff time required to furnish personnel files.

#### EXPENDITURE IMPACTS OF CURRENT BILL:

This bill would have indeterminate impacts on local governments.

According to the Washington State Association of Counties, this bill would have a small impact on local governments, which already keep personnel files and are subject to reporting under the Public Records Act. According to RCW 49.12.240, local government employees have the right to inspect their own personnel files at least once each year. Since state and local government agencies already maintain personnel records, the Public Employment Relations Commission does not expect local governments to incur significant costs providing current employees with their personnel files. Local governments may be more likely to incur costs in terms of staff time in order to meet the 14 day deadline, depending on administrative capacity and records retention policies of the jurisdiction. If an employer is unable to meet the 14 day deadline, they would incur costs in the form of statutory damages starting at \$250, and up to \$1,000. Since it is unknown the number of current or former employees that will request personnel files, or the amount of staff time required to furnish personnel records for each jurisdiction, expenditure costs for local governments are indeterminate.

Page 2 of 3 Bill Number: 5061 S SB

#### C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

#### CHANGES IN REVENUE IMPACTS BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

This bill version would not change revenue impacts in comparison to the original version of the bill.

#### REVENUE IMPACTS OF CURRENT BILL:

This bill would not have revenue impacts on local governments.

#### SOURCES:

Association of Washington Cities

Bill Hearing, SB 5061, Labor & Commerce Committee, (January 12, 2023)

Municipal Research Services Center

Public Employment Relations Commission

Senate Substitute Bill Report, SSB 5061, Labor & Commerce Committee, (2023)

Senate Bill Report, SB 5061, Labor & Commerce Committee, (2023)

Washington State Association of Counties

Page 3 of 3 Bill Number: 5061 S SB

# **Individual State Agency Fiscal Note**

<b>Bill Number:</b> 5061 S SB	Title: Personnel records		SWF-SWF Statewide Fiscal Note - OFM
Part I: Estimates			
No Fiscal Impact			
<b>Estimated Cash Receipts to:</b>			
NONE			
Estimated Operating Expenditu	ires from:		
Non-z	zero but indeterminate cost and/or savin	gs. Please see discussion.	
Estimated Capital Budget Impa	ct:		
NONE			
The cash receipts and expenditur and alternate ranges (if appropri	e estimates on this page represent the most likeliate), are explained in Part II.	ly fiscal impact. Factors impacting th	he precision of these estimates,
Check applicable boxes and fo	llow corresponding instructions:		
If fiscal impact is greater the form Parts I-V.	han \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current b	iennium or in subsequent biennia,	, complete entire fiscal note
X If fiscal impact is less than	n \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current bien	nium or in subsequent biennia, co	omplete this page only (Part I
Capital budget impact, con	nplete Part IV.		
Requires new rule making	, complete Part V.		
Legislative Contact: Julie N		Phone: 786-7711	Date: 02/09/2023
Agency Preparation: Julie P	'ettit	Phone: 3608902669	Date: 02/16/2023
Agency Approval: Jamie	Langford	Phone: (360) 870-7766	Date: 02/16/2023
OFM Review: Robyn	Williams	Phone: (360) 704-0525	Date: 02/17/2023

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

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

Section 2 would affect all state agencies since it requires employers to provide a copy of the employee's personnel file(s) upon request by a current or former employee, or their legal representative, at no cost to the employee. The bill requires a 14-calendar day turnaround and includes a schedule for statutory damages to be assessed after 14 days. It clarifies that requests made under this chapter are not subject to the requirements or exemptions of 42.56 RCW, the Public Records Act, unless the request specifies that it is being made under that RCW.

#### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

#### II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

There will likely be fiscal impact to agencies, since agencies will be required to provide personnel files within a certain time frame which will create additional administrative work. Additionally, any agency that cannot provide the records within the required 14 days may be assessed statutory damages between \$250 to \$1,000 depending on the delay and/or particular failure to respond. However, it is impossible to know what the impact on affected agencies.

## **Part III: Expenditure Detail**

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

**III. C - Operating FTE Detail:** FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.

**NONE** 

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

**NONE** 

# Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

NONE

#### IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

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

#### NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.

**NONE** 

# Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.