

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 2251 HB	Title: Unenforceable LFOs
-----------------------------	----------------------------------

Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Agency Name	2023-25		2025-27		2027-29	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts						
Loc School dist-SPI						
Local Gov. Other	No fiscal impact					
Local Gov. Total						

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				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
Total \$	0.0	0	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			6,181,000						
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	No fiscal impact								
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
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									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	No fiscal impact								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

Prepared by: Gaius Horton, OFM	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date Published: Final 1/25/2024
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------	---

Judicial Impact Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2251 HB	Title: Unenforceable LFOs	Agency: 055-Administrative Office of the Courts
-----------------------------	----------------------------------	--

Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Expenditures from:

COUNTY	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
County FTE Staff Years					
Account					
Local - Counties		6,181,000	6,181,000		
Counties Subtotal \$		6,181,000	6,181,000		
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.

Legislative Contact: Luke Wickham	Phone: 360-786-7146	Date: 01/11/2024
Agency Preparation: Angie Wirkkala	Phone: 360-704-5528	Date: 01/25/2024
Agency Approval: Chris Stanley	Phone: 360-357-2406	Date: 01/25/2024
OFM Review: Gaius Horton	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date: 01/25/2024

192,084.00

Request # 081-1

Part II: Narrative Explanation

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

This bill would amend RCW 13.40.192 (Restitution and Other Legal Financial Obligations) related to enforcing legal financial obligations (LFOs) for juveniles.

Section 1 would amend the statute to provide that “any debts shall be rendered null and void and considered satisfied and paid in full by July 1, 2025.”

Section 2 would allow the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to take necessary steps to ensure this act is implemented by July 1, 2025.

II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

None, the LFOs are unenforceable so there is no cash receipt impact.

II. C - Expenditures

Juvenile case LFOs are managed in the Superior Court case management systems by information from court orders and other pleadings filed in the case, which is the official court file. The official court file is maintained by the local County Clerk’s office.

For juvenile case LFOs to be considered "null and void," a court order must be issued. The AOC cannot modify or adjust official court file data without permission granted by the County Clerk. Therefore, adjustments to the juvenile case LFO must be completed at the local level by the County Clerk.

Based on recent reporting on juvenile case LFOs from the Washington State Center for Court Research, there are an estimated 143,000 cases to be reviewed for adjustment.

IMPACT TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

This bill would not have any fiscal impact to the AOC. Section 2 of the bill directs the AOC to “take necessary steps” to ensure the bill is implemented. However, all of the implementation work will reside with the Superior Courts and County Clerk offices.

IMPACT ON COUNTIES

Superior Courts

This judicial impact note assumes that Superior Court judicial officer time would not incur additional workload because juvenile LFOs have already been considered null and void.

County Clerks estimate the time to validate LFO case information for eligible cases and make the necessary account adjustments could take between 45-60 minutes. For the purposes of this judicial impact note, the assumption is an average time of 53 minutes on 143,000 cases. All costs are assumed in FY 2025, but it is unlikely that full implementation date or deadline could be met by the County Clerks.

County Total: \$6,181,000

County Clerk Staff Costs

53 minutes multiplied by 143,000 cases divided by 60 min per hour = 126,317 hours

126,317 hours divided by 2,088 hours per FTE = 60 FTE

60 FTE multiplied by \$88,900 per FTE = \$5,375,000

County Clerk Operating Costs

60 FTE multiplied by \$13,300 = \$806,000

Part III: Expenditure Detail

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

NONE

192,084.00

Form FN (Rev 1/00)

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

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

None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 2251 HB

Title: Unenforceable LFOs

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

Legislation Impacts:

Cities: Please see the fiscal note of the Administrative Office of the Courts for a discussion of the decrease in fee revenue.

Counties: Same as above.

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:

Estimated revenue impacts to:

None

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

None

Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Alice Zillah	Phone: 360-725-5035	Date: 01/12/2024
Leg. Committee Contact: Luke Wickham	Phone: 360-786-7146	Date: 01/11/2024
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 01/12/2024
OFM Review: Gaius Horton	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date: 01/12/2024

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

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

Sec. 1 modifies RCW 13.40.192. A judgment against a juvenile for any legal financial obligation other than restitution including, but not limited to, fines, penalty assessments, attorneys' fees, court costs, and other administrative fees, is not enforceable after July 1, 2023. The superior court clerk shall not accept payments from a respondent who was ordered to pay legal financial obligations, including fines, penalty assessments, attorneys' fees, and court costs after July 1, 2023. Any such debts shall be rendered null and void, and considered satisfied and paid in full by July 1, 2025.

Sec. 2 establishes that the Administrative Office of the Courts may take the necessary steps to ensure that this act is implemented by July 1, 2025.

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.

The legislation would have no expenditure impacts for local government.

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.

The legislation would have no revenue impacts for local government, other than a decrease in fee revenue discussed in the Administrative Office of the Courts fiscal note.

Please note that court impacts, including judicial costs, clerk costs, and court fees are described in fiscal notes prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Local government fiscal notes include city and county expenditures for law enforcement investigations and arrests, indigent defenders, prosecutors, and jail costs.