

# Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

<b>Bill Number:</b> 1174 HB	<b>Title:</b> Court interpreters
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## Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Agency Name	2025-27		2027-29		2029-31	
	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	2025-27				2027-29				2029-31			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Administrative Office of the Courts	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.											
<b>Total \$</b>	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0

Agency Name	2025-27			2027-29			2029-31		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	No fiscal impact								
Local Gov. Total									

## Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2025-27			2027-29			2029-31		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Administrative Office of the Courts	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
<b>Total \$</b>	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Agency Name	2025-27			2027-29			2029-31		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	No fiscal impact								
Local Gov. Total									

# Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

<b>Prepared by:</b> Gaius Horton, OFM	<b>Phone:</b> (360) 819-3112	<b>Date Published:</b> Revised 2/13/2025
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# Judicial Impact Fiscal Note

Revised

<b>Bill Number:</b> 1174 HB	<b>Title:</b> Court interpreters	<b>Agency:</b> 055-Administrative Office of the Courts
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## Part I: Estimates

**No Fiscal Impact**

**Estimated Cash Receipts to:**

NONE

**Estimated Expenditures from:**

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

**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: John Burzynski	Phone: 360-786-7133	Date: 01/20/2025
Agency Preparation: Chris Conn	Phone: 360-704-5512	Date: 02/11/2025
Agency Approval: Chris Stanley	Phone: 360-357-2406	Date: 02/11/2025
OFM Review: Gaius Horton	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date: 02/11/2025

201,687.00

Request # 063-2

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

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

This bill requests changes to Washington statute (RCW 2.43) to be compliant with Federal Department of Justice policy interpretation of Title VI prohibiting a court from imposing interpreter costs on parties in all court proceedings and court-managed programs; update statutory verbiage in order to align with the operations conducted by AOCs Court Interpreter Program and industry best practices; and to provide better access to the courts and court services for individuals regardless of their ability to communicate in English.

### II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

None

### II. C - Expenditures

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Impact is indeterminate. The funding amounts listed below are based on the following assumptions:

1. Interpreter hourly rate of \$40.17 by averaging minimum amount (\$32.86) and maximum amount (\$47.47).
2. Initial assessments are 1.25 hours and mandatory classes are at least 8 hours.
3. The number of cases were derived from data from 2022 and 2023. This data was extrapolated out to 2031 and then divided by 10 to get an average.
4. Numbers assume 100% utilization (high) and 33% utilization (low).

The total costs for this period could be as high as \$2,190,000 or as low as \$547,200 with the total assessments / mandatory classes being 7,554 (high) and 1,890 (low).

The costs and cases spread out by fiscal year are as follows with the high value first and low value second:

FY26: \$365,000 / 1,259 cases; \$91,200 / 315 cases  
FY27: \$365,000 / 1,259 cases; \$91,200 / 315 cases  
FY28: \$365,000 / 1,259 cases; \$91,200 / 315 cases  
FY29: \$365,000 / 1,259 cases; \$91,200 / 315 cases  
FY30: \$365,000 / 1,259 cases; \$91,200 / 315 cases  
FY31: \$365,000 / 1,259 cases; \$91,200 / 315 cases

## Part III: Expenditure Detail

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

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

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

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

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

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

### III. D - FTE Detail

NONE

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

NONE

## Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

### IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

201,687.00

Form FN (Rev 1/00)

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:** 1174 HB

**Title:** Court interpreters

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

## Legislation Impacts:

- Cities:
- Counties:
- 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: 01/21/2025
Leg. Committee Contact: John Burzynski	Phone: 360-786-7133	Date: 01/20/2025
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 01/21/2025
OFM Review: Gaius Horton	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date: 01/23/2025

## **Part IV: Analysis**

### **A. SUMMARY OF BILL**

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

Sec. 2 amends RCW 2.43.020. "Credentialed interpreter" means an interpreter who is credentialed by the Administrative Office of the Courts in a spoken language.

Sec. 3 amends RCW 2.43.030. Credentialed interpreters shall be appointed in legal proceedings involving participation of persons with limited English proficiency, unless good cause is found on the record for appointing a noncredentialed interpreter.

Sec. 7 adds a new section to RCW 2.43. The court shall appoint a team of interpreters as required by Supreme Court rule.

### **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, beyond those described in the fiscal note of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

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.

### **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 governments.

#### **SOURCES:**

Administrative Office of the Courts