

# Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

<b>Bill Number:</b> 1207 2S HB PL	<b>Title:</b> Superior court clerk fees
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## Estimated Cash Receipts

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

Agency Name	2025-27		2027-29		2029-31	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts	Fiscal note not available					
Loc School dist-SPI						
Local Gov. Other		1,542,020		1,573,015		1,604,630
Local Gov. Total		1,542,020		1,573,015		1,604,630

## 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	Fiscal note not available											
Office of the Secretary of State	Fiscal note not available											
Office of State Treasurer	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
<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	Fiscal note not available								
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other									
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	Fiscal note not available								
Office of the Secretary of State	Fiscal note not available								
Office of State Treasurer	.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	Fiscal note not available								
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other									
Local Gov. Total									

**Estimated Capital Budget Breakout**

NONE

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<b>Prepared by:</b> Gaius Horton, OFM	<b>Phone:</b> (360) 819-3112	<b>Date Published:</b> Preliminary 5/ 5/2025
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# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

<b>Bill Number:</b> 1207 2S HB PL	<b>Title:</b> Superior court clerk fees	<b>Agency:</b> 090-Office of State Treasurer
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## Part I: Estimates

☐ No Fiscal Impact

### Estimated Cash Receipts to:

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

### Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

### 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:	Phone:	Date: 04/28/2025
Agency Preparation: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 04/29/2025
Agency Approval: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 04/29/2025
OFM Review: Megan Tudor	Phone: (360) 890-1722	Date: 04/30/2025

Part II: Narrative Explanation

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.

2SHB 1207 PL creates a surcharge collected by local governments and transmitted by the county treasurer to the state for deposit into the Washington state legacy project, state library, and archives account (\$20) and into the judicial stabilization trust account (\$25). The general fund is the recipient of the earnings from investments.

There will be some de-minimis work for OST which can be completed within current practices and resources.

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.

Projected cash flows are currently unavailable; therefore, estimated earnings from investments are indeterminable.

There may be an impact on the debt service limitation calculation. Changes to the earnings credited to the general fund impacts, by an equal amount, general state revenues.

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.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

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

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.*

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

<b>Bill Number:</b> 1207 2S HB PL	<b>Title:</b> Superior court clerk fees
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## Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

### Legislation Impacts:

- ☐ Cities:
- ☒ Counties: Estimated additional \$4,719,665 in county revenues through fiscal year 2031 as a result of new surcharge on certain court filings
- ☐ 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:

Jurisdiction	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
County	767,175	774,845	1,542,020	1,573,015	1,604,630
<b>TOTAL \$</b>	767,175	774,845	1,542,020	1,573,015	1,604,630
<b>GRAND TOTAL \$</b>	4,719,665				

### Estimated expenditure impacts to:

None

## Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: James Vogl	Phone: 360-480-9429	Date: 05/02/2025
Leg. Committee Contact:	Phone:	Date: 04/28/2025
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 05/02/2025
OFM Review: Gaius Horton	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date: 05/05/2025

## Part IV: Analysis

### A. SUMMARY OF BILL

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

This fiscal note analyzes the local government impact of 2SHB.PL 1207, comparing it to the impact of 2SHB 1207.

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

The second substitute bill as passed would require that \$5 of the new \$50 surcharge on certain kinds of court filings be retained by counties to be used for the county clerk's office operations, including administering this new surcharge. Under the provisions of the previous bill version, the entire \$50 surcharge would have been required to be remitted to the state.

#### SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL:

Section 1 of the proposed legislation would amend RCW 36.18.020, specifying that for the following types of filings, county superior court clerks must collect an additional \$50 surcharge:

- A party filing the first or initial document in any civil action
- Any party, except a defendant in a criminal case, filing the first or initial document on an appeal from a court of limited jurisdiction or any party on any civil appeal
- Filing a petition for judicial review as required under RCW 34.05.514
- Filing the notice of a debt due for the compensation of a crime victim under RCW 7.68.120 (2) (a)
- The party instituting probate proceedings filing the first or initial document
- Filing any petition to contest a will admitted to probate or a petition objecting to a written agreement or memorandum as provided in RCW 11.96A.220

The \$50 surcharge would be required to be distributed as follows: \$45 to be transmitted to the state, with \$20 to be deposited in the Washington state legacy project, state library and archives account, and \$25 to be deposited in the judicial stabilization trust account, and the remaining \$5 to be retained by counties to be used for the county clerk's office operations, including administering this new surcharge.

### 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 proposed legislation would have no impact on local government expenditures.

### 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.*

#### CHANGE IN REVENUE IMPACT BETWEEN THIS BILL VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

The second substitute bill as passed would result in an estimated additional \$4,719,665 in county revenues through fiscal year 2031, as is discussed in more detail below. Under the provisions of the current bill version, \$5 of the new \$50 surcharge on certain court filings would be retained by counties to be used for the county clerk's office operations, including administering this new surcharge.

Under the provisions of the previous bill version, counties would not have retained any of the new \$50 surcharge, so the bill would accordingly have had no impact on local government revenues.

#### REVENUE IMPACT OF CURRENT BILL:

The proposed legislation would result in an estimated additional \$4,719,665 in county revenues through fiscal year 2031.

The Office of the Secretary of State assumes that, based on an analysis of annual caseload data from the Administrative Office of the Courts from 2013 to 2024, there would be approximately 153,435 filings in fiscal year 2026 that would be subject to the new \$50 surcharge the proposed legislation would require, with an annual growth rate in filings each

subsequent year of about 1%. Accordingly, the following number of filings would be subject to the new \$50 surcharge in fiscal years 2026 through 2031:

Fiscal year 2026: 153,435 filings  
Fiscal year 2027: 154,969 filings  
Fiscal year 2028: 156,519 filings  
Fiscal year 2029: 158,084 filings  
Fiscal year 2030: 159,665 filings  
Fiscal year 2031: 161,261 filings

Under the bill's provisions, \$5 of the \$50 surcharge would be retained by counties to be used for the county clerk's office operations, including administering this new surcharge. Accordingly, county clerks' revenue would increase by the following amounts each fiscal year for fiscal years 2026 through 2031 under the bill's provisions:

Fiscal year 2026: 153,435 filings X \$5 per filing = \$767,175  
Fiscal year 2027: 154,969 filings X \$5 per filing = \$774,845  
Fiscal year 2028: 156,519 filings X \$5 per filing = \$782,595  
Fiscal year 2029: 158,084 filings X \$5 per filing = \$790,420  
Fiscal year 2030: 159,665 filings X \$5 per filing = \$798,325  
Fiscal year 2031: 161,261 filings X \$5 per filing = \$806,305

Total for fiscal years 2026 through 2031: \$4,719,665

SOURCES:

Washington Office of the Secretary of State





# Multiple Agency Ten-Year Analysis Summary

<b>Bill Number</b> 1207 2S HB PL	<b>Title</b> Superior court clerk fees
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This ten-year analysis is limited to the estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases.

## Estimated Cash Receipts

Office of State Treasurer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 1207 2S HB PL	<b>Title</b> Superior court clerk fees	<b>Agency</b> 090 Office of State Treasurer
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

## Estimates

☒ **No Cash Receipts**      ☐ **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts**      ☐ **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

<b>Name of Tax or Fee</b>	<b>Acct Code</b>											
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Agency Preparation: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 4/29/2025 10:23:12 an
Agency Approval: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 4/29/2025 10:23:12 an
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date: