

SF3029 - 0 - Fees; Uncertified Copies, Court Proceedings

Chief Author: **Ron Latz**  
 Committee: **Judiciary And Public Safety Finance And Policy**  
 Date Completed: **2/22/2022 11:12:23 AM**  
 Agency: **Supreme Court**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings	X	
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
<b>Local Fiscal Impact</b>		
		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium		
	Dollars in Thousands	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	362	395	395	
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>362</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>	
<b>Biennial Total</b>			<b>362</b>		<b>790</b>	

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-

**LBO Analyst's Comment**

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

**LBO Signature:** Alyssa Holterman Rosas      **Date:** 2/22/2022 11:12:23 AM  
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**State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details**

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

\*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

<b>State Cost (Savings) = 1-2</b>		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	-	362	395	395
<b>Total</b>		-	-	<b>362</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>
<b>Biennial Total</b>					<b>362</b>	<b>790</b>
<b>1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*</b>						
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Biennial Total</b>					-	-
<b>2 - Revenues, Transfers In*</b>						
General Fund	-	-	(362)	(395)	(395)	(395)
<b>Total</b>		-	-	<b>(362)</b>	<b>(395)</b>	<b>(395)</b>
<b>Biennial Total</b>					<b>(362)</b>	<b>(790)</b>

**Bill Description**

SF3092-0 amends section 357.021, subd. 2, eliminating the \$8 uncertified copy fee and prohibiting any fee to be charged for an uncertified copy of an instrument from a civil or criminal proceeding.

**Assumptions**

The effective date is July 1, 2022.

An \$8 per document fee will not be charged for an uncertified copy of a district court document requested from at a court administrator’s office or from an online platform for public access to district court records. Court administration staff will continue to print copies of court documents as requested.

Uncertified copy fee revenue received in June 2022 will be credited to the state general fund in July 2022.

The uncertified copy fee schedules in the Judicial Branch case management system will be deactivated. Judicial Branch webpages with copy request and fee information, and procedural documentation will be updated. This work can be done within the normal course of business.

**Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula**

- On average for FY18-FY20, uncertified copy fee revenue was \$628,205 (\$603,878 in FY18; \$694,038 in FY19; and \$586,698 in FY20).
- In FY21 uncertified copy fee revenue was \$459,543.
- In FY22 the uncertified copy fee revenue for the first half of the year was \$165,438. The estimated uncertified copy fee revenue for FY22 is \$330,876 (\$165,438 x 2). The source of the significant decrease in revenue is unknown. It is reasonable to assume that the decrease in revenue is due, in part, to the availability of court documents through the MCRO application (4.11 million documents downloaded to date).

- The estimated revenue decrease to the state general fund in FY23, taking cash flow into account, is at least \$362,274 (Average actual and anticipated revenue for FY21 and FY22 - \$459,543 + \$330,876 = \$790,419 divided by 2 = \$395,210 divided by 12 months = \$32,934 per month x 11 months).
- The estimated revenue decrease to the state general fund in FY24 and after is at least \$395,210 (Average actual and anticipated revenue for FY21 and FY22 - \$459,543 + \$330,876 = \$790,419 divided by 2).

### **Long-Term Fiscal Considerations**

The loss in revenue is permanent.

### **Local Fiscal Impact**

### **References/Sources**

#### **Agency Contact:**

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