

Judicial Impact Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1243 HB	Title: Truancy of students	Agency: 055-Admin Office of the Courts
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Part I: Estimates

☐ No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

Account	FY 2016	FY 2017	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21
Counties					
Cities					
Total \$					

Estimated Expenditures from:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost. Please see discussion.

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 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.

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Request # 1243 HB-1

Part II: Narrative Explanation

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

A new section is added to 28A.225 that would provide flexibility for how school districts address truancy.

Section 2 of RCW 28A.225.015 currently requires the public school to file a truancy petition for a child who is six or seven years old and has seven unexcused absences in a month or ten unexcused absences in a school year. It would be amended to make the requirement discretionary rather than mandatory.

Section 4 of RCW 28A.225.025 currently states that operation of a school truancy board does not excuse a district from the obligation of filing a petition within the requirements of RCW 28A.225.015(3). The amendment would strike that sentence.

Section 5 of RCW 28A.225.030 currently requires a public school to file a truancy petition for a child under the age of seventeen who is required to attend school. It would be amended to make the requirement discretionary rather than mandatory.

II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

II. C - Expenditures

Information contained in the Caseload Reports shows that there were 11,289 truancy cases filed in 2012 and 11,288 cases filed in 2013. The bill would remove the requirement that school districts file truancy petitions and it would make filing some of the truancy petitions discretionary. As a result, it is assumed that the impact of the bill would result in fewer truancy filings each year and there would be a reduction in judicial workload. There is no data available to estimate the reduction in truancy petition filings, but it is assumed that the judicial workload savings would be greater than \$50,000 per year. However, because there is a backlog of cases in the courts and an insufficient number of judicial officers, other cases will be heard sooner and thus reduce the backlog.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact