## **Judicial Impact Fiscal Note**

Bill Number: 2033	HB Title:	Sexual assault protect order	Agency:	055-Admin Office of the Courts
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## **Part I: Estimates**

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Х	No	Fiscal	<b>Impac</b>

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 # 2033 HB-1

## **Part II: Narrative Explanation**

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

This bill would allow permanent sexual assault protection orders, and modify the process of renewal of nonpermanent orders.

Sections with potential court impact:

Section 1 would amend RCW 7.90.120 to allow courts to issue permanent sexual assault protection orders. Currently, courts may only issue a sexual assault protection order to be effective for up to two years.

Section 2 would amend RCW 7.90.121 to direct courts to grant extensions of sexual assault protection orders unless the respondents prove that they will not engage in or attempt to engage in physical or nonphysical contact with the petitioners when the orders expire.

(Note: This bill does not change RCW 7.90.150(6)(c), which limits the duration of sexual assault protect orders issued in criminal cases to 2 years following the expiration of any sentence of imprisonment and subsequent period of community supervision, conditional release, probation, or parole.)

Anticipated Fiscal Impact:

Based upon information provided, it is assumed that there would be minimal financial impact to the superior, district, and municipal courts statewide from the amendments and provisions in this bill.

There is a finite amount of superior, district, and municipal court judicial officer time available to hear cases throughout the state. Whenever additional caseload creates a need for additional judicial officers, the system absorbs that need. The system accommodates such changes partially by delaying criminal and juvenile cases and partly by lengthening the backlog for civil trials. Small increases in FTE need may be absorbed by the system, but there is a cumulative effect from multiple bills in a session or over a series of years that can result in a shortage of judges and commissioners relative to the judicial need expressed in caseload.

II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

II. C - Expenditures

Part III: Expenditure Detail

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact