

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 1/7/2016

LRB Number	15-4078/1	Introduction Number	AB-0609	Estimate Type	Original
Description Authorizing certain libraries to notify collection agencies and law enforcement agencies of delinquent accounts					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under this bill, a library may report to a collection agency or, subject to a condition, a law enforcement agency, information about delinquent accounts of any individual who borrows from the library or who uses the library's documents, materials, resources, or services, including information about the number and types of overdue materials. A library may report delinquent accounts to a law enforcement agency only if the delinquency is at least \$50. Under the bill, the information that may be so disclosed is limited to the individual's name, contact information, and the amount owed.

Under current law, unless an exception applies, records of a public library that indicate the identity of any person who borrows or uses the library's documents or other materials, resources, or services may not be disclosed. The exceptions are: 1) records disclosed pursuant to a court order; 2) records disclosed to the library's staff acting within the scope of their duties; 3) records disclosed by consent of the subject of the records; 4) records disclosed to a custodial parent of the subject of the records; 5) records disclosed to another public library for purposes of borrowing materials for the subject of the record; and 6) video surveillance records disclosed to law enforcement officers under certain limited circumstances.

Local: Where necessary, libraries will be allowed to notify law enforcement and collection agencies of any individual who is past due in returning library materials or fines in excess of \$50 or more. By sharing this information, individuals who borrow materials from the library may be discouraged from becoming delinquent in returning library materials, likely minimizing the loss borne by local libraries and taxpayers that results when patrons have delinquent accounts. Additionally, using collections or law enforcement to minimize the cost of replacing library materials could allow libraries to focus existing resources on new and in-demand books and other materials. However, because the extent to which this mechanism would be used is unknown, the local fiscal impact as a result of this bill is indeterminate.

State: There is no fiscal impact to the state as a result of this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications