

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 2/15/2016

LRB Number	15-4658/1	Introduction Number	SB-712	Estimate Type	Original
Description Reporting deaths; death investigations and other duties of coroners and medical examiners; disposition of bodies; creating a medicolegal investigation examining board; licensure of medical examiners and medicolegal investigation staff members; extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures; providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures; granting rule-making authority; making an appropriation; and providing criminal penalties					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, state revenue collected from the sale of death certificate copies is credited to the appropriation under 20.435 (1) (gm).

The proposed bill, which primarily deals with death reporting rules and the establishment of a Medicolegal Investigation Examining Board to oversee medicolegal investigation licenses, appropriates all moneys received by the Department of Health Services (DHS) for issuance of death certificates to the Board, which resides in the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS). The bill also transfers \$270,000 from 20.435 (1) (gm) to DSPS upon the bill's enactment.

At its current balance, the appropriation account under 20.435 (1) (gm) would be able to provide the initial \$270,000 to DSPS without negatively affecting business operations. However, the DHS Vital Records office, which is funded from this account, is currently engaged in a multiyear implementation of an online record management and preservation system. Vital records fees are set in anticipation of these costs. If all future death certificate revenue is directed away from DHS, the Department estimates that it will lose \$1,450,560 per year, increasing at the rate of the aging population. Under current revenue and expense estimates, the bill would result in a deficit in the appropriation equal to \$2,843,850 by FY 2019. DHS would have to request an increase in other vital records fees or GPR in order to recoup the difference in expenses and revenue.

The Department does not anticipate a fiscal impact on local health departments.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications