

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

CTS 2/16/2010

LRB Number 09-4159/1	Introduction Number AB-0691	Estimate Type Original
Description Requiring certain county agencies to petition a court to freeze accounts of certain individuals being financially exploited		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

AB 691 would create a new injunction procedure, called an "account injunction for individuals at risk" that would allow an individual-at-risk agency to petition for a temporary restraining order (TRO) and an injunction to freeze the accounts of an individual-at-risk if the agency believes there has been financial exploitation.

The court system currently maintains forms and procedures for existing TRO and injunctions proceedings under ss. 813.12, 813.122, 813.123 and 813.125, Stats. This bill will require the court system to create new forms and procedures to apply the proposed s. 813.124. The bill will also require computer programming of the court's case management system to accommodate the new forms and procedures.

AB 691 provides no resources for the programmers and support staff necessary to comply with the bill's procedures. As a result, some personnel now working to support case management and other functions will need to be reassigned to complete the programming required for the proper administration of this system.

It is impossible to predict how many additional court proceedings would be generated under the terms of this bill or whether some actions currently brought under s. 813.123 would instead be brought under a new s. 813.124. Additional court proceedings require judge, court reporter, court staff and juror time. These costs are borne by the state and the county. An accurate estimate of the increased costs is impossible with existing data, but it is expected that existing court staff would absorb it.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications