

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOC 3/8/2013

LRB Number	13-1119/1	Introduction Number	AB-0033	Estimate Type	Original
Description Extending the time period for counties to seek reimbursement from prisoners for expenses associated with confinement in jail					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a county may seek, from a person who is sentenced to a county jail or placed on probation and confined in jail, reimbursement for certain expenses it incurs in relation to the crime for which the person was sentenced to or confined in jail. Current law allows the county 12 months after the person is released to commence a civil action in circuit court for reimbursement of the expenses, this law extends this time to 24 months.

This bill may increase local revenues, in the event the extended time period allows county jails to pursue additional civil actions in circuit court for reimbursement of inmate incarceration costs, and sufficient funds are collected from offenders. Some jurisdictions report amounts ranging between \$3,000 and \$3,500 have been collected, on average, from offenders who were subject to this provision, and that amounts potentially could increase with additional time to file civil actions. The Department doesn't have access to data which summarizes the total number of counties currently pursuing civil actions for reimbursement of incarceration costs, total amounts collected, and the degree to which additional revenue may result from an extended time period to pursue civil actions. Therefore, the Department is not able to quantify a fiscal effect from this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications