

HOUSE BILL NO. 552

MISSING

STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 179-75

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 7, 19 75, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 552 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.

Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

House Bill 552 provides for compensation of victims of crime and procedures, therefore establishes a crime compensation trust fund, and provides for disposition of one-half of all fines and forfeitures collected in any court to the crime compensation trust fund.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. There will be 2,000 compensatory cases per year; the average compensation and medical reserves will be comparable to the \$9,000 per cure for Workmen's Compensation (NOTE: Since this is an entirely new program no historical data exists upon which to base predictions)
2. Operating expenses will be 39% of salaries, the same ratio as the Workmen's Compensation Compliance Program.
3. A personal services 10% pay raise in FY 77 is assumed.
4. Information collected by the Department of Intergovernmental Relations indicates that \$3,142,655 in fines and forfeitures were collected by municipal and justice courts during FY 74. Assume the same levels for FY 76 and FY 77.

FISCAL IMPACT (Increased income and expenditures)

| | FY 76 | FY 77 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Estimated fine and forfeiture collections for Crime Compensation Trust Fund | \$ 1,571,321 | \$ 1,571,327 |
| (1/2 of all fines and forfeitures collected in all courts in the state) | | |
| Estimated expenditures by category | | |
| Personal Services | 132,000 | 145,200 |
| Operating Expenses | 52,000 | 55,640 |
| Capital Outlay | 16,000 | 0 |
| Benefits | 18,000,000 | 18,000,000 |
| Estimated expenditures | \$18,200,000 | \$18,200,840 |
| Net effect (Expenditures - Revenue) | \$16,628,673 | \$16,629,513 |

CONCLUSION:

Based on very rough estimates of compensation claims, it is estimated enactment of House Bill 552 would result in establishment of a Crime Compensation Trust Fund which would require \$33.3 million of extra appropriations to cover benefits and operating costs. The diversion of one-half of all fines and forfeitures collected with the state to the Crime Compensation Trust Fund would divert funds from other programs.

Under current law 61% of total fines and forfeitures are distributed to local governments. Only 18% of the total is currently distributed to the General Fund. The remainder is distributed to traffic education, Fish and Game and Highways.


BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: February 13, 1975