

Fiscal Analysis

CREATE BENCH WARRANT FUND



Bill/Sponsor **HOUSE BILL 4770 As Introduced**, Rep. Matthew M. Milosch
HOUSE BILL 4771 Substitute H-1, Rep. Susan L. Tabor

House Committee Judiciary

Analysis **Summary**
House Bill 4770 would amend the Office of Child Support Act, PA 174 of 1971, to create a child support bench warrant enforcement fund in the state treasury. Fees collected under Section 2529 of the revised Judicature Act of 1961, primarily circuit court filing fees for civil actions, are to be deposited into this fund. The fund is to be managed as a permanent fund by the state treasurer, with funds invested and interest and investment earnings to be credited to the fund. Money in the bench warrant enforcement fund at the close of each fiscal year would remain in the fund, and not lapse to the general fund. The fund would be used to administer and provide grants for activities to enforce bench warrants associated with the collection of child support. This fund will be used to supplement, rather than supplant, other money appropriated for the Office of Child Support, which is part of the Family Independence Agency (FIA). House Bill 4771 raises fees by \$10 each for three circuit court filing fees related to domestic relations matters, and designates this fee increase for deposit monthly into the newly-created child support bench warrant enforcement fund.

Fiscal Impact

House Bill 4770 and House Bill 4771 combined create additional funding for FIA's Office of Child Support, from both increased domestic relations filing fees collected by the circuit courts, as well as interest and investment earnings from the newly-created bench warrant enforcement fund. We do not have sufficient county data to estimate the new revenue generated. These bills should have no significant fiscal impact on the Judiciary, counties or other agencies of state government.

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FLOOR ANALYSIS - 6/20/03

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