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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lopez **LAST UPDATED** _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/28/2023
BILL
SHORT TITLE Preventative Detention Efforts **NUMBER** Senate Bill 477
ANALYST Gray

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
	\$400.0	Recurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
 *Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Public Defender Department	No fiscal impact	\$400.0	\$400.0	\$800	Recurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
 *Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Defender Department (PDD)

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 477

Senate bill 477 appropriates \$400 thousand from the general fund to the 2nd Judicial District Attorney for the purpose of hiring new staff for pretrial detention hearings.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$400 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY24 shall revert to the general fund.

Although this bill does not specify future appropriations, appropriations for recurring needs like staffing create an expectation of continued funding in future fiscal years; therefore, this cost could become recurring after the funding period.

The Public Defender Department (PDD) noted it would experience an equivalent budget impact as the 2nd Judicial District Attorney's office because it must increase staff time for each additional pretrial detention hearing. The estimated operating budget impact is \$400 thousand.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Statewide, district attorneys received a 5.7 percent increase in general fund revenue over FY23 which included a 2 percent targeted salary increase for both attorneys and staff. The budget request for the 2nd Judicial District Attorney did not include additional revenue to hire more staff for pretrial detention hearings. The average statewide funded vacancy rate—a measure of how many positions have funding available but remain vacant—was 10.5 percent at the end of FY22, reflecting a challenging market in which to attract and retain staff.

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