

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB780ER

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Habeeb

3. **Committee:** Passed Both Houses

4. **Title:** Public access to non-confidential court records

5. **Summary:** The substitute bill provides that a clerk of court shall make non-confidential court records available to the public upon request. The bill specifies that such records shall be provided no later than 30 days after the request. The bill further provides that the clerk may charge a fee for responding to such request that shall not exceed the actual cost incurred in accessing, duplicating, reviewing, supplying, or searching for the requested records. Finally, the bill requires the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to make available to the public an online case information system of non-confidential information for criminal cases by July 1, 2019.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final (see Item #8)

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The substitute bill would require the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (OES) to make available a publicly viewable online case information system of certain non-confidential information entered into the case management system for (i) criminal cases in the circuit courts participating in the Executive Secretary's case management system and in the general district courts..

According to OES, the current case management system for the circuit and general district courts can accommodate the requirements of this bill without a material fiscal impact to the court operations.

According to the Compensation Board, the proposed legislation is not expected to have a material fiscal impact on circuit court clerk offices.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Courts,

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. **Other Comments:** None