

Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB651

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

2. Patron: Quayle, F.

3. Committee: Senate Committee for Courts of Justice

4. Title: **Jurisdiction of Small Claims Court**

5. Summary: Increases from \$5,000 to \$10,000 the ceiling of the jurisdictional amount of a small claims court. The maximum amount that may be claimed in small claims court shall be adjusted July 1, 2015, and on July 1 every five years thereafter, in an amount equal to the cumulative annual increases for that five-year period in the United States Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary (see Item 8)

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation would increase the maximum amount that may be sought in an action on the small claims docket in general district court (currently \$5,000) to \$10,000. This amount would be adjusted every 5 years based on the cumulative CPI. Since this legislation would simply shift cases from one docket to another, thus no increase in the total number of cases, the general district courts could implement this change with current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Courts

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/26/2010

Document: G:\2010 FIS\SB651.Doc Reginald Thompson

cc: