

Department of Planning and Budget

2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB927

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Edwards, J.

3. Committee: General Laws and Technology

4. Title: Administrative Process Act; disqualification of a hearing officer.

5. Summary: Establishes a process for the disqualification of hearing officers in situations where the officer cannot accord a fair and impartial hearing or consideration, or when required by the applicable rules governing the practice of law. The reasons that a hearing officer may be disqualified include prejudice, financial interest, ex parte communications, or any other factor that would cause a reasonable person to question the impartiality of the hearing officer. In addition, the bill establishes a process for challenging the initial decision to not disqualify.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: None.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All state agencies that hold hearings and are not exempt from the Administrative Process Act, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Supreme Court.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/19/15