JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis House Appropriations Committee

Concerning matters related to tenant proceedings, and, in connection therewith, affording the right to a jury trial in an action for unlawful detention of real property, personal service requirements, requirements for setting the trial date, permitting remote appearances at a jury trial, requiring security in cases of trial continuances, and prohibiting waiving the right to a jury trial.

Prime Sponsors:Date Prepared:Representatives Bacon; WoodrowApril 17, 2025Senators Gonzales J.; WeissmanJBC Analyst:

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Fiscal Impacts

Appropriation Required, Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Fiscal Note Status

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/16/25.

Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to technical issues. The State Expenditures table (Table 2) of the Revised Fiscal Note includes \$118,981 in expenditures to be appropriated. JBC Staff includes this amount in the appropriation amendment.

Amendments in This Packet

J.001 Staff-prepared appropriation amendment

L.008/J.002 Bill Sponsor amendment – changes fiscal impact and appropriation

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

J.001

Staff amendment **J.001** (attached) appropriates a total of \$118,981 General Fund to the Judicial Department for FY 2025-26. The appropriation reflects 0.9 FTE.

L.008/J.002

Sponsor amendment **L.008** establishes an effective date of January 1, 2026. This reduces staff expenditures for FY 2025-26 from nine months to six months. This requires an appropriation of \$75,745 General Fund, that includes \$63,548 for the prorated 0.5 FTE. Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree with this change in fiscal impact. Appropriation amendment **J.002** appropriates \$75,745 General Fund to the Judicial Department and includes 0.5 FTE.

If the Committee adopts sponsor amendment L.008, it should adopt J.002 and NOT J.001.

Points to Consider

General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2025-26 based on the March 2025 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$18.2 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 15.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders.

General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2025 Legislation	
Description	FY 2025-26 Appropriation
Juvenile diversion, deflection, or detention	\$10,000,000
General Assembly legislative priorities	6,521,739
Voter approved initiatives	1,700,000
Total	\$18,221,739

This bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$118,981 for FY 2025-26, reducing the \$18.2 million set aside by the same amount. If sponsor amendment **L.008** and **J.002** are adopted, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$75,745 for FY 2025-26.