



FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 322

Committee: Judiciary

Sponsor: Senator Sam Givhan

Analyst: Riley Aaron

Date: 05/23/2023

Senate Bill 322 as introduced would increase receipts collected by judges of probate for the issuance of notary commissions by an estimated \$6.5 million for each four year period beginning in January 2026, based on the \$90 fee increase to be collected from an estimated 73,000 active notaries statewide. The receipts would be distributed among the various counties or judges of probate of those counties. In addition, this bill increases the required bond amount to be held by notaries public from \$25,000 to \$50,000, which would increase the obligations of state and local agencies that pay the cost of bonds for persons employed by such agencies. This bill would also increase the fee notaries public are entitled to receive for each notary transaction from \$5 under current law to \$10.

Finally, this bill could increase receipts to the State General Fund and municipal general funds from fines; increase receipts to the State General Fund, county general funds, municipal general funds, and other funds to which court costs are deposited; and could increase the obligations of the State General Fund, local jails, the district attorneys, the Department of Corrections, the Bureau of Pardons and Paroles, and community corrections programs by an undetermined amount dependent upon the number of persons charged with and convicted of the offenses provided by this bill and the penalties imposed.