

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2340 – SB 2460

March 7, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits a person or entity from altering and disseminating to the public an image, audio recording, or video recording that has been manipulated with synthetic media in a communication that is knowingly distributed publicly with the intent to malign, slander, defame, or otherwise intentionally mislead the public and damage the reputation of the individual. Defines synthetic media. Establishes a violation of such is an unfair and deceptive act or practice under the *Consumer Protection Act of 1977*. Authorizes an individual to seek injunctive relief and other general and special damages in against the person or entity that published the synthetic media.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Any increase in the number of complaints handled by the Attorney General is estimated to be accommodated by existing staff during normal work hours.
- Committing an unfair or deceptive practice under the *Consumer Protection Act of 1977* is a Class B misdemeanor offense.
- There will not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.
- Any additional AG duties resulting from the proposed legislation will be absorbed using existing resources.
- Any additional workload on the courts, as a result of this legislation, can be accommodated within existing resources and personnel.
- Based on the Fiscal Review Committee's 2008 study and the Administrative Office of the Courts' 2012 study on collection of court costs, fees, and fines, collection in criminal cases is insignificant. The proposed legislation will not significantly change state or local revenue.

IMPACT TO COMMERCE:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

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Assumption:

- Any impact to commerce or jobs in Tennessee is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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