

Commission on Local Government

Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact

2023 General Assembly Session | 01/09/23

In accordance with the provisions of 30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia, the staff of the Commission on Local Government offers the following analysis of legislation impacting local governments.

SB 789: Jury duty; increases allowance from \$30 to \$100 per day. (Patron: Senator Lionell Spruill, Sr.)

Bill Summary: Jury duty; allowance increase. Increases the jury duty allowance from \$30 to \$100 per day.

Local Fiscal Impact: Net Additional Expenditure: X Net Reduction of Revenues:

Summary Analysis:

Number of Localities Responding: 3 Cities, 8 Counties, 4 Towns, 0 Other

Localities estimated a negative fiscal impact ranging from \$0 to \$0.4 million over the biennium.

Localities identified the bill's fiscal impact as the recurring increase in expenditures caused by the increase in juror pay. A few localities indicated that the bill would only present a fiscal impact from circuit court jurors.

A few localities (Towns) reported no fiscal impact, as they did not contribute to court costs.

The precise impact of the bill scales with the size of the locality; more populous localities reported greater fiscal impacts than less populous ones.

Locality	Expenditure Narrative by Responding Localities
City of Manassas	
City of Richmond	<p>The Circuit Court would see an expenditure increase of \$156,000 for FY23. There will be a recurring increase of \$235,000 for FY24 to cover the increase in juror pay.</p> <p>The Treasurer's Office pays jurors from the Supreme Court, if the state does not increase the juror pay then additional expenses for FY23 would be \$96,300 and FY24 \$321,000. These expenditures are in addition to city funded juror pay making the total expenditures for FY23 \$252,300 and FY24 \$556,000.</p>
City of Winchester	
Amherst County	We would need .14 of a penny. We took FY 2022 actual expenditures and increased by the \$70 per juror per day. This would be a substantial increase to the operating budget for the courts.
Henrico County	The bill increases juror pay from \$30/day to \$100 per day. As there were 2,500 jurors in FY22, this would increase costs from \$75,000 to \$250,000, an increase of \$175,000.
Mecklenburg County	The current average three year spend on juror costs at the Circuit Court level (the only level for which our County bears responsibility) is \$18,391 at \$30 per juror. A increase in the compensation level of 3.33X results in a total estimated cost of \$61,302, which would be an increase of \$42,911.
Orange County	For most recent fiscal year, paid a total of 472 jurors at \$30 (14,160). At \$100, the cost would be \$47,200, a difference of \$33,040.
Roanoke County	We anticipate any amount to be nominal.
Rockingham County	
Sussex County	Sussex County would be negatively impacted, with an increase of \$9,000 in expenditures per year.
Wise County	In Calendar year 2022 Wise County paid out \$11,760 for jury pay. Increasing to \$100 will result in Wise County paying out \$39,200 for the same number of jurors.
Town of Blacksburg	Not applicable to the Town.
Town of Chincoteague	
Town of Marion	
Town of Scottsville	Small towns do not pay any kind of cost contribution to court operations, including jury stipends. Our small-town budget would not be affected by this bill.

* Penny value is defined as the amount a locality would need to raise their real estate tax rate to cover the fiscal impacts of the bill, assuming no other changes to revenues or expenditures. It is represented in terms of dollars (e.g., 0.01 is a one cent increase in the real estate tax rate, etc.).