



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

CTS 1/27/2024

LRB Number	23-5526/1	Introduction Number	SB-927	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> privacy protections for judicial officers, granting rule-making authority, and providing a penalty					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill establishes privacy protections for judicial officers and a procedure for a judicial officer to complete a written request for protection of the personal information of the judicial officer and the judicial officer's immediate family.

Under the bill, the personal information of a judicial officer, defined in the bill, is exempt from public records requests unless the agency has received consent to make the information available to the public. In addition, a government agency may not publicly post or display publicly available content that includes a judicial officer's personal information, provided that the government agency has received a written request from the officer that the agency refrain from disclosing the personal information. Upon receipt of the written request, the agency must remove the personal information within five business days and may not publicly post or display the information.

These provisions will require redaction of judicial officer personal information from public records released pursuant to public records requests. This will require review of documents to identify material that must be redacted prior to release.

Pursuant to the bill, if the Director of State Courts has a policy and procedure for a judicial officer to file the written request with the director of state court's office to notify government agencies, the judicial officer may send the written request to the director of state courts. In each quarter of a calendar year, the director of state courts shall provide to the appropriate officer with ultimate supervisory authority for a government agency a list of all judicial officers who have submitted the written request under this subsection. The officer shall promptly provide a copy of the list to the government agencies under his or her supervision. Receipt of the written request list compiled by the director of state courts office by a government agency shall constitute a written request to that agency for purposes of this subsection.

If the Director of State Courts develops a policy and procedure for judicial officers within the Wisconsin Court System, the office will develop a form for these judicial officers to use in order to make requests with sufficient detail so government agencies will be able to determine what persons are covered by the requests, what personal information is covered by the requests, and what publicly displayed/publicly available content of the governmental agency are encompassed by the requests. In addition, the director of State Courts will develop a process to submit these requests to government agencies each quarter to enable government agencies to identify what requests remain in place. These policies and processes will assist government agencies in identifying what information is covered by the bill and what content of the agency must be monitored.

Existing procedures used for protecting personal information in court records can be utilized to provide the protections required under the bill.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The fiscal impacts on the Director of State Courts of submitting written requests on behalf of judges for Circuit Court and Court of Appeals judges and justices of the Supreme Court is anticipated to be on-going.

As the obligation of government agencies to comply with the requirements of the public records law is ongoing, fiscal implications of review and redaction of public records consistent with the bill are anticipated to be ongoing as well. Likewise, so are the obligations and fiscal implications related to the bill's obligations on government agencies to receive and comply with written requests of judicial officers to not disclose their personal information, remove from existing public postings or displays their personal information, and to not include such information from future public postings or displays.

The Director of State Courts anticipates that it can meet the fiscal impact of initial implementation and continued implementation utilizing existing resources.