

SB 19 – HB 96

FISCAL NOTE



Fiscal Review Committee
Tennessee General Assembly

February 6, 2025

Fiscal Analyst: Arielle Woodmore | Email: arielle.woodmore@capitol.tn.gov | Phone: 615-741-2564

SUMMARY OF BILL: Lessens the criteria required for the Attorney General and Reporter (AG) to be authorized to investigate and initiate the criminal prosecution of a judge, chancellor, judicial elected official, or District Attorney General (DAG).

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-112(a), the AG has the authority to investigate and initiate the criminal prosecution of any judge, chancellor, judicial elected official, or DAG whenever:
 - The AG receives information sufficient to constitute probable cause to investigate whether any official may have violated any state criminal law;
 - A decision to prosecute the official by the DAG of the district in which the offense occurred or in which a portion of the offense occurred may result in a personal, financial or political conflict of interest; and
 - The AG receives a report of a violation of the *Tennessee State Employees Uniform Nepotism Policy Act of 1980*.
- The proposed legislation authorizes the AG to investigate and initiate a criminal prosecution of any such official whenever the AG receives information sufficient to constitute probable cause and either of the other two enumerated conditions exist, rather than the authority being predicated on the existence of all three enumerated conditions.
- The AG can conduct any additional investigations by utilizing existing resources.
- Any additional workload on the courts can be accommodated within existing resources and personnel.

CERTIFICATION:

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic".

Bojan Savic, Executive Director