TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2820 - SB 2730

April 5, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (017996): Prohibits, for Shelby and Davidson Counties, any adjustment to the annual base level of state support, from exceeding the greater of five percent or the percent increase afforded to support the Offices of the Public Defender and District Attorneys General.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

Other Fiscal Impact – Due to multiple unknown factors, the extent and timing of any increase in state expenditures and corresponding local revenue cannot be determined with reasonable certainty.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-14-110, for the 20th and 30th judicial districts, the state shall pay, in equal quarterly installments, to the county or metropolitan government which has a local public defender, an amount annually appropriated for that purpose, annually adjusted based on the consumer price index, not to exceed five percent per annum.
- The proposed legislation will prohibit adjustments to state payments to the 20th and 30th judicial districts from exceeding the greater of five percent or the percentage increase to state public defender offices and district attorney's general offices annually or five percent per annum.
- Tennessee Code Annotated § 8-14-107(a) establishes the salaries for all district public defenders, except Shelby and Davidson Counties.
- The salaries for district public defenders in Shelby and Davidson Counties are determined by their respective offices and funded primarily by their applicable counties.
- The proposed legislation would effectively authorize an increase in state expenditures and corresponding local revenue if the percent increase afforded to support the Offices of the Public Defender and District Attorneys General is greater than five percent in any year.
- Due to multiple unknown factors, including but not limited to, the consumer price index in any future year and the percentage increase to the Offices of the Public Defender and District Attorneys General in any future year, the extent and timing of any increase in state expenditures and corresponding increase in local revenue associated with a change in the base level of state support required for the 20th and 30th judicial district cannot be determined with reasonable certainty.

CERTIFICATION:

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

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Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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