

Legislative Analysis



JUROR COMPENSATION FUND TRANSFER

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Senate Bill 759

Sponsor: Senator Roger Kahn, MD

Committee: Appropriations

Complete to 11-09-2011

A SUMMARY OF SENATE BILL 759 AS PASSED BY THE SENATE:

Senate Bill 759 would transfer \$2,607,500 from the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund to the Court Equity Fund.

The Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund was created to reimburse counties for the October 1, 2003 increase in the statutory minimum compensation rates for jurors. Annually, revenues from jury demand fees and driver license clearance fees have outpaced expenses from the fund. Currently, the fund has a surplus of approximately \$4.8 million.

Transfers out of the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund have been made on three other occasions:

- FY 2004-05: \$4,000,000 to the General Fund
- FY 2007-08: \$2,250,000 to the General Fund
- FY 2009-10: \$1,352,100 to the Court Equity Fund

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill would transfer \$2.6 million from the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund to the Court Equity Fund. General Fund allocations to the Court Equity Fund were reduced in the FY 2010-11 Judiciary Budget with the intention that these cuts be offset by a transfer from the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund. The fund has averaged a surplus of approximately \$1.1 million per year over its expenditures, and will retain an estimated balance of \$2.2 million after this transfer.

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