

Senate Fiscal Agency
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SFA



BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4103 (as passed by the House)
Sponsor: Representative Andrew Raczkowski
House Committee: Family and Civil Law
Senate Committee: Judiciary

Date Completed: 4-28-99

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Revised Judicature Act to increase the jurisdiction of the small claims division of the district court from \$1,750 to \$2,500, as of January 1, 2000.

MCL 600.8401

Legislative Analyst: S. Lowe

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate impact on the State and local units of government. In 1997 there were 99,824 cases filed in the small claims division of district court. General civil cases filed in district court totaled 160,441. Filing fees in general civil cases are set by MCL 600.8371 and range from \$17 to \$100, depending on the amount in controversy. Filing fees in the small claims division of district court are set by MCL 600.8420 and range from \$17 to \$32. There are no data available on the number of general civil cases that included claims between \$1,750 and \$2,500. Also, it is possible that new cases would result from increasing the jurisdictional limit for the small claims division to \$2,500. The bill would result in the following changes to the filing fee for cases that are in the small claims division where the amount in controversy exceeds \$1,750:

| Amount in Controversy | MCL 800.8371 | MCL 600.8420 | Difference |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------|
| | over \$1,750 to \$10,000 | over \$600 | |
| Fee | \$52.00 | \$32.00 | (\$20.00) |
| Disposition | | | |
| Community Dispute Resolution Fund | \$2.00 | \$2.00 | 0 |
| Judges Retirement System | \$13.50 | \$9.00 | (\$4.50) |
| District Control Unit | \$16.50 | \$11.00 | (\$5.50) |
| State Court Fund | \$20.00 | \$10.00 | (\$10.00) |

Fiscal Analyst: B. Bowerman

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.