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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Mc Sorley DATE TYPED 02/04/04 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court Family Counseling Services SB 355

ANALYST Koplik

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	\$30.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts  
Public Defender Department

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 255 appropriates \$30 thousand from the general fund to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District for the purpose of contracting with a counseling center that provides family counseling, including educational services, mediation, family and individual therapy.

#### Significant Issues

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court's budget is included in the judiciary's unified budget. The total general fund base request for FY 2005 to fund current level of operations for the court is \$15.8 million. General fund appropriations recommended in House Bill 2 and 8 and Senate Bill 97 include funding to maintain the current level of services provided by the family counseling program.

The additional funding of \$30,000 would expand the level of family counseling services in the Second Judicial District Court, though the Administrative office of the Courts notes that the pro-

posed legislation is not part of the judiciary's unified budget. On the other hand, the Public Defender Department states that criminal charges arising out of acts of domestic violence are a substantial drain on its resources. Any funding for prevention of domestic violence will result in a savings to the department.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$30 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2005 shall revert to the general fund.

**RLG/prr**