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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Adair ORIGINAL DATE 03/02/11  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_  
SHORT TITLE Metro & Magistrate Court Civil Action Amount SB 525  
ANALYST Daly

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	NFI	NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 525 increases the civil jurisdictional limit in both metropolitan and magistrate court from ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) exclusive of costs and interest.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

By increasing the dollar amount of cases that are heard in metropolitan and magistrate courts, this bill may be expected to slightly reduce civil caseloads in district courts, with a concurrent increase in the metropolitan and magistrate courts. All of these courts are primarily funded by the state and no fiscal impact is anticipated, particularly since no change in types of cases filed or significant issues raised is anticipated. There will be a minimal administrative cost for statewide update, distribution and documentation of statutory changes.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The AOC believes it is unlikely that this bill would result in different types of cases being filed or significantly different issues being raised. Thus the training already given to magistrate judges should suffice to enable them to hear civil cases with a jurisdictional limit of \$15,000.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The AOC advises the courts are participating in performance-based budgeting. To the extent that caseloads increase in metro or magistrate courts or decrease in district courts as a result of this bill, there may be an impact on performance measures.

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